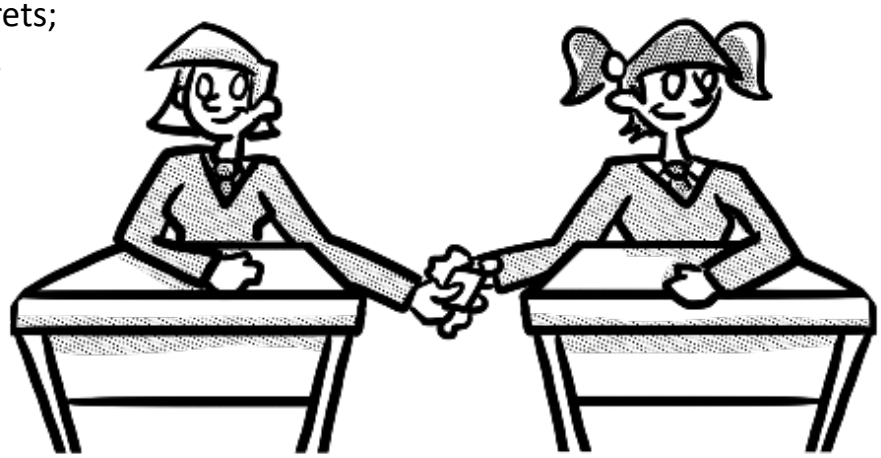
My Best Friend

My best friend's an angel,
My best friend's a queen.
My best friend's a menace;
She's really rather mean.

My best friend adores me,
My best friend can share.
My best friend ignores me;
She loves to pull my hair.

My best friend's a wonder,
My best friend's not shy.
My best friend tells secrets;
She always seems to lie.



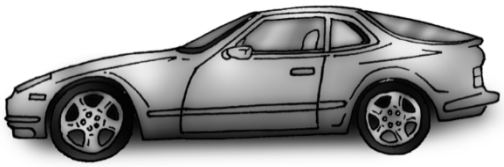
So
I guess
She's not *really*
My real best friend
At all

Because…

My *real* best friend is loyal,
My real best friend can't talk.
My real best friend just barks and wags
When we go out for walks.

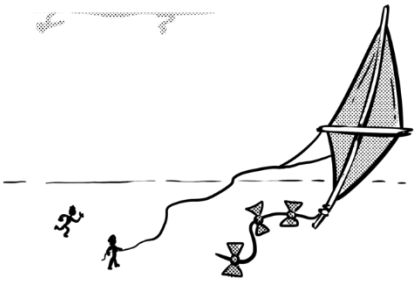
Reading together

The Kite



Tyler had been looking forward to his birthday for weeks. Now he was down to his last present. It was long, thin and light. No way could it be the remote-controlled car he had longed for.
"And this is from Great Uncle Gordon," said his mum, trying to sound more cheerful than she was feeling. She had done her best, but she could tell Tyler was disappointed.
He tore off the paper. It was a kite. "Great," muttered Tyler and threw it to one side. Then he stomped off to his room. Mum quietly slipped the kite out of sight.

A couple of months later, the family were in the local park. It was a bright, breezy day. Tyler was running around, having a great time scrambling over the climbing frames and chasing his friends around.
Now and again, he jogged over to take a sip from his bottle of water. "You know that kite you got for your birthday?" said Mum. "Mind if we give it a go?"
"Go for it," replied Tyler before dashing off again.
Dad watched while Mum and Dylan, Tyler's younger sister, set up the kite. Mum checked which way the wind was going, then held on to the ends of the twin strings while Dylan held the kite above her head.
Mum walked backwards about thirty paces. Dylan stretched as high as she could. There was a strong gust. Mum tugged on the strings and the kite jerked out of Dylan's hands.
"Hooray!" cried Dylan as the kite climbed into the sky with its colourful tail swirling beneath it.
"Come and have a go," said Mum.
Dylan squealed and gasped as it ducked and danced on the breeze. Suddenly, Tyler was by her side, asking to have a go. She handed him the string holders. Mum gave him a few tips on what to do. Soon, he was laughing and cheering. He couldn't take his eyes off it. Before long, he was able to control each spiral and swoop. It was only when his arms started to ache that he let the others have another go. "Happy birthday, love," grinned Mum.



Reading together

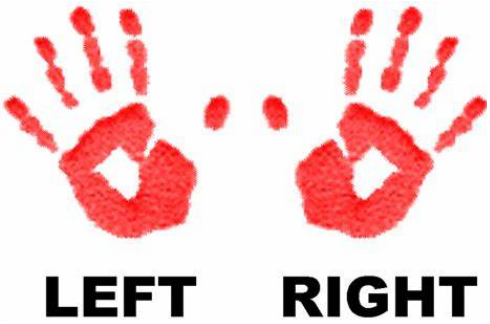
Left and Right

Right, we're heading out the house,
We've *finally* left for school!
Look left then right then left again,
But see no cars at all.

The moment we arrive at school,
My sister gives a cry…
She's gone and left her book at home,
So back there we must fly.

I reckon it's right to rush right back,
But it's left us looking late.
We have to use the office door…
They've already locked the gate.

I sit down in class, my teacher barks -
"Right, write the date out fast!"
I'm left to catch up super quick…
The kid who's always last!



Reading together

Deciduous and Evergreen Trees

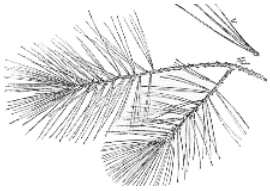
Have you ever wondered why some trees keep their leaves all year long and some trees don't? Read on to find out more…

Introduction

We have lots of different types of trees in the UK. These trees can be sorted into two main groups – **deciduous** and **evergreen**. **Deciduous** sounds like a complicated word, but it just means trees that shed their leaves in the autumn and grow new leaves in the spring. **Evergreen** is a name for trees that keep their leaves all year long.

Evergreen Trees

Pine, Spruce, Holly and Fir trees are all evergreen trees. They are grown for lots of different reasons: for shade, for their fruit such as cones (pinecones) and for Christmas trees. These trees only stay green while they are still growing in the ground. If we cut them down, their leaves very quickly turn brown and fall off!

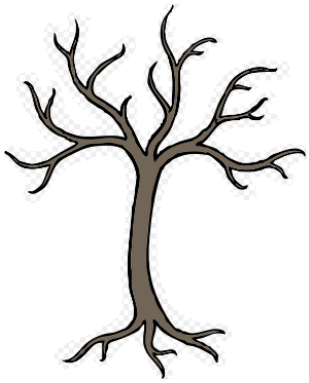


Evergreen trees stay green because they can make their own food all year round. They have thick, waxy leaves which are rolled up tight, like long, thin, green needles. The shape of the leaves allows them to store water in freezing temperatures; this helps them to make food even when there isn't much sunlight.

Deciduous Trees

Oak trees are deciduous. These trees lose their leaves before the winter comes. Their leaves turn lots of different colours before finally turning brown and falling off. New leaves start to grow again in March.

Oak trees use their leaves to make food. They need sunlight and water to do this. Because it gets colder and there is less sunlight in winter the trees stop making food, so they don't need their leaves. They become dormant (they go to sleep) until the springtime comes and there is more sunlight to make food again. Other deciduous trees that grow in the UK are Ash, Beech and Sycamore trees.



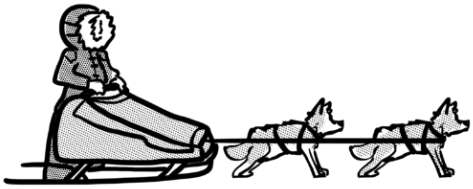
Reading together

Forces

There are many ways to explain what a force is. Perhaps the simplest way to think of a force is as something that can make an object move from one position to another. If an object is not staying still, there is (or was) a force that caused that movement. What is more, the object will continue to move until there is another force working in the opposite direction.

Many forces are very easy to spot. There are ones that involve pushing, like when you are rolling a giant snowball to make the body of a snowman. There are also ones that involve pulling, such as a team of huskies with a sledge. In both cases, you can clearly see who or what is doing all the work. It all depends on whether they are behind or in front of the object as it moves.

pushing force



pulling force

There are, however, some forces that you cannot see at all. We don't mean things like the wind in the sails of a boat – that force is invisible because we can't see air, although we can still feel it. No, we're talking about things like gravity – the force that pulls objects towards the centre of the Earth. You can't see it. You can't even feel it in the same way that you can sense the brush of the breeze through your hair. However, you will certainly know about it if you've ever lost your grip on the monkey bars!

Magnetism is another force you can only notice by the effects it has on certain materials. It's almost magic the way a magnet can pick up a nail, let alone the way it can still work through different materials. Have you ever seen iron filings moving around on a piece of card because there is a magnet shifting underneath?

If that's hard to wrap your head around, magnetism can be both a pushing and a pulling force … at the same time! It all depends which end, or pole, of another magnet is closest. We call these opposite ends north and south. The north pole will attract the south pole of another magnet but repel the north.

So, if you have a magnet and you know which way round its poles are, you can also work out which is the north end and which is south of any other magnet, just by moving it close enough. The proof will be in the pudding, as they say … or rather the pushing or the pulling!