Teacher’s notes for the Comprehension Test:
*Five Children and It*

- Do this test after you have read the whole book with the class.
- Ask the children to fill in their name and the date at the top of the page.
- Tell the children that this is part of the *Five Children and It* story.
- Ask them to read the text silently.
- Remind them to look at the picture, too.
- If there are any words they have forgotten, tell them not to worry. Tell them to read everything they can.
- When they have finished reading the text, ask them to read each question one at a time.
- Do not give any help.
- Then ask them to read the three possible answers that are given.
- Ask them to underline which answer they think is correct.
- Do not allow the children to talk or to copy each other’s work.
- Collect the test papers, mark the scores and fill in the results on the class record sheet.
After breakfast the next day, Cyril said, ‘Let’s take our spades, and dig in the big sand pit behind the fruit trees. We can pretend we are at the seaside.’ Cyril was the eldest, and he liked to take charge of his brothers and sisters. So off they went to the sand pit. Each child carried a spade, and they took it in turns to carry Baby. First, they built a sandcastle. But it wasn’t much fun, because there was no sea water to rush in through the door and wash it away. Then Cyril said, ‘I know what we can do! Let’s dig a great big hole.’ So they picked up their spades and started to dig. Baby wanted to eat some sand. ‘He thinks it’s sugar!’ said Anthea. Anthea was the second eldest child. She was very fond of Baby, and looking after him made her feel grown up. They dug, and they dug, until they were hot and covered in sand. The hole was very deep. ‘Let’s stop now!’ said Jane. She went to explore a little cave with Robert and Cyril. Anthea carried on digging. Suddenly, Anthea said, ‘Cyril! Robert! Jane! Look what I’ve found! Oh! I think it’s alive! Come on, before it runs away!’ The other children ran back to the hole and looked in. ‘I can see a foot,’ said Anthea. ‘And fur!’ ‘Maybe it’s a rat,’ said Robert. ‘It’s much bigger than a rat!’ said Anthea. ‘Oh! It said something!’ She started to dig with her hands. Then they heard a hoarse, grumpy voice. ‘I said, leave me alone!’ The children looked at each other in astonishment. Then Anthea said, ‘We want to see you. We wish you would come out!’ Two big, pointed ears poked up from the sand at the bottom of the hole, followed by the rest of the creature. It had a round, furry body, and furry arms and legs. Its hands and feet were like a monkey’s. But the strangest thing was its eyes. They were on the end of long horns, like a snail’s eyes.
Choose and underline the correct answer.

1. Where did the children dig?
   a) in the sand pit   b) in the garden   c) at the seaside

2. What did they do first?
   a) dug a big hole   b) picked some flowers   c) built a sandcastle

3. What did they dig with?
   a) sticks   b) spades   c) their hands

4. What did Baby want to eat?
   a) some sandwiches   b) some sugar   c) some sand

5. Who is the second eldest child?
   a) Cyril   b) Anthea   c) Robert

6. How old is Jane?
   a) older than Cyril   b) the same age as Cyril   c) younger than Cyril

7. Who did not go to explore a little cave?
   a) Robert   b) Anthea   c) Cyril

8. What did Anthea see first in the hole?
   a) a hand   b) a rat   c) a foot

9. What sort of voice did the creature have?
   a) sandy   b) squeaky   c) hoarse and grumpy

10. What did the creature say?
   a) Leave me alone!   b) Please stop!   c) Go away!

11. What are the creature’s eyes like?
   a) monkey’s eyes   b) rat’s eyes   c) snail’s eyes
Teacher’s notes for the Word Recognition Test: *Five Children and It*

- Do this test after you have read the whole book with the class.
- Ask the children to fill in their name and the date at the top of the page.
- Tell the children that the words all come from the *Five Children and It* book.
- Tell the children to listen to each sentence that you read. Read the first sentence to the class and stress the word in bold print. Say the word in bold print again, on its own, when you have finished the sentence.
- Ask the children to choose which word they think it is from the three possible words they are given for that sentence.
- Ask them to underline the word of their choice. (If they make a mistake and want to change their mind, tell them to cross out the wrong answer and underline the correct answer.)
- Repeat this procedure with each sentence.
- Make sure the children know which number sentence you are reading each time.
- Do not give any help.
- Do not allow the children to talk or to copy each other’s work.
- Collect the test papers, mark the scores and fill in the results on the class record sheet.

**Test sentences and words**

1. The children liked to **explore**.
   - **explore**
2. Robert put the coin in his **pocket**.
   - **pocket**
3. A **circle** is round.
   - **circle**
4. It is better to go to bed **early**, not late!
   - **early**
5. It is **dangerous** to cross a busy road.
   - **dangerous**
6. Anthea ate a **biscuit**.
   - **biscuit**
7. There was a **notice** in the window of the shop.
   - **notice**
8. The children spoke **politely** to their teacher.
   - **politely**
9. Egypt is the name of a **country**.
   - **country**
10. A **mystery** is something you do not understand.
    - **mystery**
Word Recognition Test: *Five Children and It*

Name _____________________  Date _____________________

Underline the correct word.

1. a) explain  b) explore  c) exciting
2. a) packet  b) picket  c) pocket
3. a) circle  b) circus  c) servant
4. a) ear  b) angry  c) early
5. a) danger  b) famous  c) dangerous
6. a) biscuit  b) bicycle  c) brisk
7. a) note  b) noticed  c) notice
8. a) police  b) polite  c) politely
9. a) county  b) country  c) cousin
10. a) mystery  b) myself  c) mysterious