



Smart

by Kim Slater

This half term all pupils will be lent a copy of Smart, which they will be expected to read at home alongside a book of their choice and some non-fiction writing. **Please support us by ensuring your child does this reading each week.**

Please see below for a suggested timetable for reading at home as well as ideas and discussion points for supporting your child with this book. Your child has been given a printed copy of this document too.

Deadlines for reading Smart

Please note, pupils may read the book more quickly if they wish. However, we will be holding quizzes and discussions at school based on the table below.

Wednesday 4th March	p39
Wednesday 11th March	p82
Wednesday 18th March	p117
Wednesday 25th March	p156
Wednesday 15th April	End of the book

Pupils will need to read roughly 40 pages per week of this book. This could be broken down into 3 lots of roughly 13 pages, which should work well with the 30 minutes per day required reading.

Daily reading

Pupils should spend 30 minutes per day reading at home. Please support your child by ensuring they have a quiet place to read and get into a habit of reading at the same time each day. This could be as soon as they get home from school, before they go to bed, or straight after their homework - try to find a routine which works best for your family.

If your child struggles to read independently for 30 minutes, then try the following:

- Split the time up into sections (e.g. fifteen minutes before school and fifteen minutes afterwards)
- Split the time into books (e.g. ten minutes on each text)
- Use a timer
- Take it in turns to read (e.g. your child reads a page, and then you read a page)



Supporting your child with reading at home

Children are more likely to read and enjoy reading if their parents/carers show them that reading is important.

You can help them do this in the following ways:

- Help your child get into a reading routine (see above)
- Ask your child to read part of the book aloud to you
- Ask your child the discussion questions for each chapter and show interest in their answers
- Encourage your child to complete the competition task at the end of each book
- Read part of the book aloud to your child

Your child will take part in a quiz about these books each week. You can help your child prepare for this by asking them the discussion questions below.

Questions to go through with your child

Section 1 (p1-39)

- What does Kieran find in the river?
- What job does Kieran want to do when he's older?
- Why does Kieran have to hide his nice things?
- Make a prediction about whether you think Jean's friend was murdered or that it was an accident

Section 2 (p40-82)

- Kieran notices a lot about the world around him. What adjective could we use to describe him?
- What do you think the ducks and geese would talk about?
- What is Kieran's favourite breakfast?
- Does Kieran like running around the playground?
- Kieran's pastel seascape was supposed to be bleak, what do you think this means?

Section 3 (p83-117)

- How do you think Kieran's mum felt when Ryan said there wasn't enough food for Kieran?
- How do you think Tony and his friend got the tv?
- Why did Kieran spit in Ryan's tea?
- Why did the police arrest Tony?

Section 4 (p118-156)

- Why did the other children not like kawana?
- What time does Kieran's mum finish work?



- Why did Kieran's mum say no to Kawana coming over?
- Why had Kawana moved to
- Where is Kieran's grandma?

Section 5 (p157-229)

- Why does Kieran get excited about the man with the scar?
- Where does Kieran follow the man to?
- Who do you think was at the door at 3am?
- Why did Kieran take a step back from his grandma at first?
- How did Collin die?

After they have completed the book

- Write or give a summary of the book
- Who was your favourite character and why?
- Who was your least favourite character and why?
- What did you enjoy about the book? Why did you like this part?
- Was there anything you didn't like? Why did you not like that part?
- Would you read a similar book to this in future?

Competition

All pupils are strongly encouraged to enter our *Smart* response competition. To enter the competition you need to respond to the book in some way - this could be with a piece of writing (news article, poem, story, song lyrics etc), a piece of art (drawing, collage, painting, photograph), or any other recorded response.

Recommended reading after Smart

- Other books by Kim Slater (The Boy Who Lied, A Seven Letter Word, 928 Miles from Home)
- The curious incident of the dog in the nighttime by Mark Haddon
- The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd

