



**A Day At The Zoo**



**The Watch**



**Rabbit Girl**



**The Apple**

# Reading Booklet

Key Stage 2 Practice Reading Booklet

<http://www.literacyshedplus.com>



**The Swimming Pool**



## The Apple

“Grab the rod-leveller! It’s going to blow if we don’t level out the power!”

Frankie looked around her. Her science lab was in disarray. Half-filled beakers were scattered all over the place; some had smashed on the floor, leaving bubbling scars on the tiles. She lifted a pile of yellow paper and grabbed a corkscrewed piece of metal that had been hidden underneath.

“Here it is,” she shouted to the hunched lab-coat at the top of an enormous ladder.

A hand appeared at the end of one of the coat’s arms, and she threw the metal rod up for it to catch. The rod disappeared, along with the hand, into the complicated machinery that hung from the ceiling.

Professor Muldoon was a genius. Frankie knew it and reminded herself of it every night when she went around the lab, picking up the mess that the professor had left lying around. There weren’t many female scientists in the town, and Frankie considered herself lucky to have found a mentor as brilliant as Henrietta Muldoon. She just wished she was as clever at remembering to put things away.

Somewhere in the mechanism, something thumped heavily against something else, followed by the professor shouting out in pain. “Nearly there,” she cried down to Frankie. “Spin the second hand on the clock backwards seventeen times exactly. Not a second more or less.”

“Yes, professor,” Frankie said. She rolled her eyes and picked up the old, brass pocket-watch. Several wires poked out of the top and trailed up to the metal box that hung several feet above her head. The box itself was suspended on several steel cables. Each one sparked with electricity, and the box had started to vibrate with power. Frankie’s hair was standing on end, like a cat next to a balloon. There were mechanisms everywhere in the lab, but this one was different. It was special.

Carefully, she wound the second hand backwards. Once she was sure she’d done it exactly seventeen times, she shouted up to the professor. The professor pulled her head out of the tangle of wires and slid down the ladder. Her own hair was cut short, but it still stuck out at odd angles in the electric storm that was building. She grabbed something from one of the desks and placed it into the metal box. It was a shiny red apple.

“We’re not quite ready to try it with a living thing yet, are we?” the professor explained. “Is the receiver ready?”

Frankie nodded and raced through to the room next door. A similar setup hung from the rafters; an empty metal box, the twin of the one in the lab, was beginning to glow. She raced back into the main room and smiled. “It’s ready.”

“Here we go,” Professor Muldoon said, and flipped a large switch on the wall.

A blinding ball of white light erupted from the box. The air tasted of metal. When Frankie opened her eyes, the apple had disappeared. She glanced at her colleague, and they raced through to the other room, just as another flash of light dimmed.

Inside the second metal box, there was a red apple, almost identical to the one they’d just seen disappear. This one, however, had a bite taken out of it.





1

Look at the second paragraph.

**Find** and **copy one** word that shows that Frankie's lab was a mess.

1 mark

2

Find the sentence that says:

*"She lifted a pile of yellow paper and grabbed a **corkscrewed** piece of metal that had been hidden underneath."*

Which other words could best replace **corkscrewed**.

Tick **two**

Twisted

☐

Spiralled

☐

Straight

☐

Rusty

☐

2 marks

3

Read the text and complete the table below with **one** piece of evidence from the text to support each statement.

	Evidence
Frankie was happy that Professor Muldoon was female.	
Frankie wasn't happy that Professor Muldoon was messy.	

2 marks





4

What impression do you get of Frankie's lab?

Give **two** impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 marks

5

How was the apple in the second box different to the one in the first box?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

6

How many times did Frankie need to wind the second-hand backwards?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark





# SATs Practice - The Apple

1. Disarray
2. Twisted and Spiralled (1 mark for each correct answer)
3.
  - a) There weren't many female scientists in the town, and Frankie considered herself lucky to have found a mentor as brilliant as Henrietta Muldoon.
  - b) She just wished she was as clever at remembering to put things away.  
She went around the lab, picking up the mess that the professor had left lying around.
4. Give 1 mark for any two correct impressions. Give 1 mark for each correct explanation with a piece of evidence from the text.
  - a) It is messy.**  
There are beakers everywhere including smashed beakers on the floor.  
The piece of metal had been hidden underneath a pile of paper.  
Frankie has to tidy up every night.  
There was a tangle of wires.
  - b) It is big/tall**  
The ladder that Professor Muldoon climbs up is described as enormous.  
They have to run through to another room to see the second box.
  - c) It is full of science equipment**  
There are lots of wires and mechanisms around.  
There were beakers everywhere
5. It had a bite taken out of it
6. Seventeen