



Describing Gollum



What can
you see?
hear?
smell?
Taste
feel?





Write a description of Gollum Try to use our toolkit...

To create a monster you could:

- Pick out gruesome details using adjectives to describe the eyes, mouth, nose, ears, arms, legs, feet, toes, hair, body... Engage the senses
- Use similes to compare something 'like' or 'as' something else that is nasty!
- Use a rhetorical question to reveal a scary thought



Write a description of Gollum Try to use our toolkit...

To create a monster you could:

Show how Gollum feels or moves using fronted adverbials to show...

- what Gollum is doing or where he is
- how Gollum is feeling, moving or acting



Have a go using what you know!
'Bordeline' child - part of
intervention group, EAL, Polish



Old Gollum lived in the shadow of the steep cliff. He was small and ugly with long legs like an ape. He dangled his large bony feet over the side of the jagged rocks and stared. I thought to myself, Would he attack me? At that moment, he turned and stared at me - it wasn't funny. He was evil.

By Matteusz
Year 6

Introduce the model

Read line by line discussing vocabulary and building up a picture about the setting and character

TA/Children capture ideas and test them out as the text reveals more information...

What do we know now about...

- Character?
- Setting?



Possible Grid to Capture Ideas

Character?

Setting?

Puzzles?

Patterns?

GOLLUM - The Model

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GOLLUM - The Model

Deep down here by the dark water lived old Gollum, a small slimy creature. I don't know where he came from, nor who or what he was. He was a Gollum - as dark as darkness, except for two big round pale eyes in his thin face. He had a little boat, and he rowed about quite quietly on the lake; for lake it was, wide and deep and deadly cold.

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, but never a ripple did he make. Not he.

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, but never a ripple did he make. Not he. He was looking out of his pale lamp-like eyes for blind fish, which he grabbed with his long fingers as quick as thinking.

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, but never a ripple did he make. Not he. He was looking out of his pale lamp-like eyes for blind fish, which he grabbed with his long fingers as quick as thinking. He liked meat too. Goblin he thought good, when he could get it; but he took care that they never found him out.

He just throttles them from behind, if they ever came down alone anywhere near the edge of the water, while he was prowling about.

He just throttles them from behind, if they ever came down alone anywhere near the edge of the water, while he was prowling about. They very seldom did, for they had a feeling that something unpleasant was lurking down there, down at the very roots of the mountain.

Text level innovation:

Redraft following Shared Reading of Model and adding to the toolkit... and using a Thesaurus! (after 2 x 45 min sessions)



On the rocky cliff-top, lived old, gruesome Gollum. A diminutive, slimy creature, deformed in body with hair rising out of his skin which appeared deadly cold. He dangled his hefty feet over the side of the jagged rocks, grumbling. His lamp-like eyes shone straight at me. I thought that some hideous demon was lurking in the roots of his penetrating eyes. I thought to myself, Would he throttle me?

At that moment, he turned and stared venomously - darker than darkness. He was loathsome. Oh, he was grisly. Sinister.

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Planning: Annotated version

N.B., Always co-construct ideas with the children but think through the text at the planning stage so that you can direct and pull out the vocabulary, key features and discuss their effect.



Possible Grid to Capture Ideas

Character?

old, small, slimy

pale eyes, thin face, large feet

character reflects setting 'darker than darkness'

Eats blind fish and goblins

Setting?

dark, underground

lake with a boat

Base of the mountain 'roots'

Puzzles?

Why are the fish in the lake blind?

How do the goblins know something is down there?

How many goblins has he eaten? Not many as he is thin!

Patterns?

Repetition of deep and 'd' sound

Alliteration and simile used to describe character and setting

GOLLUM - The Model

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Put character in a dark place
Use of alliteration x 3 to describe setting 'd' sound
e.g., 'Deep down by the dark water'
Alliteration to describe character
e.g., 'small slimy
Creature' - connotations of a snake-like animal using hissing sounds - sibilance

GOLLUM - The Model

Deep down here by the dark water lived old Gollum, a small slimy creature. I **don't know where** he came from, nor **who** or **what** he was.

Create mystery about the character e.g., 'don't know' - where, who or what?
Other worldly e.g., 'Nor' - Use of archaic language

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Repetition of 'dark' in a simile/alliteration e.g.,
'as dark as darkness'

Other ideas... cold as coldness, nasty as nastiness, black as blackness...

Or express differently e.g., darker than darkness, colder than coldness...

Make character move quietly/slowly
within setting

Alliteration 'quite quietly' More
alliteration using 'd' sound to
describe the setting 'deep and
deadly cold'

...del
...ater lived old
...ure. I don't know
... nor who or what he was.
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Use of voiced plosives - repetition of the 'd' sound throughout creates scary atmosphere like a drum/heart beating or a 'D... D... Der...!'

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, **but never** a ripple did he make. **Not he.**

Use of negative language/ turn of phrase e.g., 'but never' 'Not he'

Short sentence 'Not he.' re-emphasises the 'never'

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, but never a ripple did he make. Not he. He was looking out of his **pale lamp-like eyes** for blind fish, which he grabbed with his long fingers **as quick as thinking**.

Describe features or actions of character using similes e.g., 'pale lamp-like eyes', - cool, glowing quality - not warm
'grabbed with his long fingers as quick as thinking' very quick hunter/animal-like- instinctive!

He paddled it with large feet dangling over the side, but never a ripple did he make. Not he. He was looking out of his pale lamp-like eyes for blind fish, which he grabbed with his long fingers as quick as thinking. **He liked meat too.** Goblin he thought good, when he could get it; but he took care that they never found him out.

Use a short sentence to begin to add another scary detail about what the character likes to do e.g., 'He liked meat too.'

He just **throttles** them from behind, if they ever came down alone anywhere near the edge of the water, while he was **prowling** about.

Verbs chosen carefully to describe character's actions further hinting at hunter and an animal e.g., 'prowling' and 'throttles' - use of present tense with 'throttles' makes it feel like it could still happen!

He just throttles them from behind, if they ever came down alone anywhere near the edge of the water, while he was prowling about. They very seldom did, for they had a feeling that something unpleasant was lurking down there, down at the very roots of the mountain.

Empty word to hide the 'monster' from the victim and verb hints at waiting monster e.g., 'something.. lurking'

Further repetition/alliteration of 'down' e.g., 'down there, down at the...'

Describe setting using a metaphor e.g., 'roots of the mountain' makes it seem alive!