

SPID THE SPIDER MEETS COUNT SPIDULA COMPREHENSION AND DEEPER THINKING ACTIVITY

This is a comprehension activity to accompany ***Spid the Spider Meets Count Spidula*** for KS1 and K22 children. It also includes deeper-thinking extension activities on **judging people fairly** and **staying safe**.

In the story, Spid and the gang travel somewhere unfamiliar and meet Count Spidula, who behaves in strange and worrying ways. Although Count Spidula eventually turns out to be kind, the story gives us a chance to talk about two important lessons:

It is good to be kind and understanding — but it is also important to stay safe and sensible around strangers.

GUIDANCE FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

First, ask children should to read the story individually or as a group, and then to answer the comprehension questions. Start with questions 1-10 and then bring the group together to discuss their answers.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Some startpoint questions are listed overleaf. These can be printed, handed out as homework or discussed with children as you think best. You'll find startpoint answers /discussion pointers on our website.

Questions 10-15 are deeper thinking questions to challenge the children to think about issues and opportunities beyond the story.

Here's a summary of the key takeouts from the story and extended thinking activity.

SPID THE SPIDER MEETS COUNT SPIDULA COMPREHENSION AND DEEPER THINKING ACTIVITY CONT.

In the story, Spid learned to understand Count Spidula better — but the gang also did the right thing by staying alert and looking after one another.

IMPORTANT LIFE LESSON

It is possible to:

- be kind **AND** stay safe

So we should:

- give people a chance
- avoid judging unfairly **BUT ALSO**
- notice warning signs
- trust trusted adults
- listen to our feelings
- make safe choices

SAFETY RULES FOR CHILDREN TO REMEMBER

- Trust your feelings
- Stay with trusted people
- Ask for help if worried
- Never keep unsafe secrets
- Tell a trusted adult
- Be kind — but stay safe too!

SPID THE SPIDER MEETS COUNT SPIDULA COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN

First, read the story individually or as a group. Then answer the following questions and be prepared to discuss them:

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What made Spid and the gang frightened of Count Spidula?
2. Did they judge him before getting to know him properly?
3. How do you think Count Spidula felt when nobody wanted to visit him anymore?
4. Have you ever misunderstood someone before getting to know them?
5. How can asking questions help us understand people better?
6. Why is kindness important when meeting new people?
7. What might have happened if Spid had never listened to Count Spidula?
8. How did Spid show empathy and understanding?
9. Why is it important not to judge people too quickly?
10. What can we do to help someone who feels lonely?

DEEPER THINKING CHALLENGE

“People are not always what they seem.”

11. What do you think this means?
12. How can we better understand and build relationships with other people?
13. What might be danger signs when meeting strangers?
14. Why is it important to trust your feelings if something feels wrong?
15. What should you do if a stranger makes you feel unsafe?