

### Activity one:

Recall and order the events from last week's story BEFORE reading it again. How well can you remember it?

## The Stone Trolls

On the southern coast of Iceland, near the small village of Vik, there once lived a band of trolls. They were huge, ugly creatures who were feared by humans and hid away underground in the dark caves of the nearby ice-covered volcano. All trolls knew that if they ever got caught outside in the daylight, they would immediately be turned to stone. So, each night, under the **cover of darkness**, they would **venture** outside to hunt and fish.

One stormy night, two **mischievous** trolls called Skess and Landra perched together on the craggy cliff, watching. Below, the sea bubbled and foamed. Above, the full moon glared down, casting a long shadow across the **ebony** beach. In the distance, they could hear the low rumble of other trolls, feasting on their **hoard** of freshly caught fish.

Suddenly, Skess jumped up, pointed at the horizon and roared. "Landra, look, a three-masted ship. I think it's in trouble!" Landra followed his gaze and stared at the magnificent ship, **pitching** and rolling on the bubbling sea. "Let's **wade** out and pull it into shore," Skess said, setting off down the beach. Landra frowned as it was already very late and the sun rose earlier and earlier in late spring, but then he jumped down from the cliff and followed close behind.

Slowly, they waded out into the sea until, at long last, they reached the **stricken** ship. Together they started to haul it towards the distant shore, which was now just a strip of silver moonlight.

For the rest of the night they heaved, and they heaved, and they heaved, but the ship was **hefty** and the sea was rough. Time passed. The two trolls didn't notice the moon slipping slowly away. Finally, they reached the blackened beach where the sailors quickly **clambered** to safety.

At that moment, the first glimmer of sunlight appeared. Shocked, Skess and Landra **shielded** their eyes and then stared at each other in horror. Their mouths widened. Their legs stiffened. Their arms ground to a halt. Their eyes closed. Both trolls and the remains of the ship instantly turned to stone ... forever.

### Activity two:

Write a summary of the story in 60 words or less. Can you contain all of the key plot points?

Tip: It might be a good idea to make bullet points of what happens in the story first and then write your paragraph based on these bullet points afterwards.

Challenge: Write one compound and one complex sentence.

(A compound sentence is a sentence with two independent clauses joined by a conjunction such as "and", "but", "so", "although", "however". A complex sentence is a sentence with a main clause and a subordinate clause that wouldn't make sense on its own.)

Eg I went to town and I bought an ice cream. = compound sentence.

I went to town, where I bought an ice cream. = complex sentence.)

### Activity three:

Imagine you are a passenger on the ship that the trolls save. They probably went through a lot of different emotions through the course of the story!

Put yourself in their shoes and write how you would have been feeling at each point of the story:

1. When the ship began to pitch and roll
2. When you saw two giant trolls coming towards you
3. When the trolls began to help you by pulling the ship
4. When you saw the trolls turn to stone after they helped you

Use a thesaurus or the internet to come up with amazing adjectives to describe how you were feeling!

Challenge: Use show not tell (eg "tears rolled down my cheeks and my hands shook uncontrollably" could show fear).

#### Activity four:

Write a short letter of thanks to the trolls for what they have done for you. Use some of the emotions that you came up with yesterday and describe some events from the story.

Challenge: Include speech in your letter and punctuate it correctly.

#### Activity five:

Reading for pleasure. Choose a book and read to yourself. Or you could choose to read about trolls some more on the internet (or any other creatures you like!).

If you would like me to mark your writing, please send it to the Year 3 email address ☺