

Gaspard the Fox series

Gaspard's Foxtrot



Author: Zeb Soanes

Illustrator: James Mayhew

Age: 5-7

Format: Hardback Size: 250 x 250mm Price: £12.99

Vocabulary

Haven Creatures Peregrinating Eccentric Din

Applause Astonished Excitable

Front cover

Discussion

What can you see on the cover?

How do you feel when you look at it?

Can you find the author and illustrator's names?

Have you seen an orchestra?

Do you know someone who plays an instrument?

What do they play?

Activities

Find out about the orchestra families. Play a matching game where you place the instruments in the correct families.



Inside spread

Discussion

Here is a street map.

Talk about the text on these pages.

Explain you'll look at this in more detail at the end.

Discuss the place to put your name – why would you do that?

Activities

Draw a picture map of the school or the local area with landmarks noted on it.





Pages 2 & 3

Discussion

Who can you see in this picture?

Where are they?

Can you see the masks on the wall? What are they?

What else might live in a garden?

Do you enjoy peregrinating?

Activities

Create a bug hotel to place outdoors or some bird feeders or a shelter for any visitors (RSPCA/PSPB websites).



Pages 4 & 5

Discussion

How many different animals can you see in the illustration?

Do you enjoy listening to music? Where and what type of music?

Activities

Play different genres of music and move in different ways – learn a new dance either a traditional, modern or classic one (practice for a Strictly Come Dancing competition).



Pages 6 & 7

Discussion

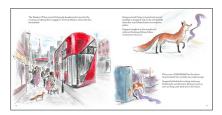
Where were Finty and Honey going?

Have you been to see a concert? Where?

Can you see the ladies looking? What do you think they are saying?

Activities

Create a performance area indoors or outdoors with a box of props and song sheets.



Pages 8 & 9

Discussion

Honey and Finty are going to the concert on the bus?

It is a special type of bus do you know what it is called – a double-decker.

What has Gaspard got in his mouth?

Activities

During movement activities, use scarves to move and dance or learn to juggle with them.





Pages 10 & 11

Discussion

Can you see Gaspard peeping out?

What can he see?

Have you seen a statue or installation before?

Activities

Find out about statues and memorials in your local area. Go to visit one and draw some sketches of it.



Pages 12 & 13

Discussion

Can you see Finty and Honey upstairs on the bus?

They are going through the town and past many shops.

What is your favourite shop to visit?

Activities

Look at all the different umbrellas on the james-smith.co.uk website.

Design a new umbrella for the store.



Pages 14 & 15

Discussion

The bus is going down another street.

What do they sell in these shops?

Now it is passing Chinatown. Do you see the lanterns hanging above the street.

What do you think the sign says?

Activities

Investigate instruments and how to play them.

Make some instruments from recycled materials.

Create some red, gold and black paintings then make fans out of them.



Pages 16 & 17

Discussion

Have you been to London? This is a very famous part called Piccadilly Circus – it has enormous screens.

What else can you see here?





Pages 18 & 19

Discussion

What can Gaspard see now?

The bus arrived and Gaspard got off.

How do you think he was feeling?

Activities

Look at pictures of Hyde Park on the Internet – what can be seen there? What other types of concerts do they stage at the park? Prepare a class concert where everyone can participate – practice the acts, make the tickets and costumes, choose the music, make posters etc.



Pages 20 & 21

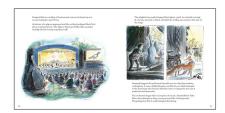
Discussion

What is Gaspard wearing around his neck?

Can you see all the people walking into the park?

Activities

Listen to Strauss' Pizzicato Polka and paint or draw what you hear.



Pages 22 & 23

Discussion

What do you see on the big screen?

There are lots of pigeons in London – it is famous for pigeons.

Who might be in the concert if the bicycle is there?

Activities

Find out about birds that visit your garden or school and keep a tally chart of the ones you see each day.



Pages 24 & 25

Discussion

How many of the instruments in the orchestra can you name?

Who is sitting at the front? At the back?

Can you see the conductor – who is he? It is Gaspard's friend the kind man.

Activities

Make paper, straw or stick batons. Decorate them then listen to different music and pretend to be the conductor.





Pages 26 & 27

Discussion

The conductor recognised Gaspard and so did everyone else – can you see their shocked faces?

Peter fell off the chair he was so shocked.

What has made you gasp with surprise?

Activities

Show awe and wonder clips from nature and film to inspire the children.



Pages 28 & 29

Discussion

Do you see all the people watching the concert – who is on the big screen now?

Does Gaspard look happy?

Activities

With the instruments the children have made, play along to *Gaspard Del a Nuit* by Ravel (orchestral version).



Pages 30 & 31

Discussion

How is Gaspard going to get home?

He will follow the kind man/conductor.

Who was on the front page of the newspaper?

Activities

Find out about funny animal stories – are there famous animal stories from your area?



Pages 32 & 33

Discussion

Learn about the author and illustrator.

Find out about all the interesting places in London.

Look at the street map and trace Gaspard's journey to the concert.

Activities

Learn about directions, forward, backwards, left, right and programme a Bee-Bot or programmable toy to follow a path.





Back cover

Discussion

Talk about the information on the back cover.

Do you remember where this picture was in the story?

Some people have written a short description of what they think of the story – write or help scribe your own story critique.

Explain the ISBN number.

GASPARD THE FOX SERIES:

Gaspard the Fox

ISBN 9781912213542 (hardback) ISBN 9781912050062 (paperback)

Gaspard: Best in Show ISBN 9781912654673

13511 7701712004070

Gaspard's Foxtrot ISBN 9781913134808

Gaspard's Christmas

ISBN 9781913134846

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