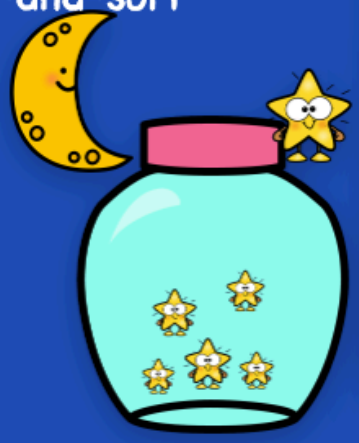
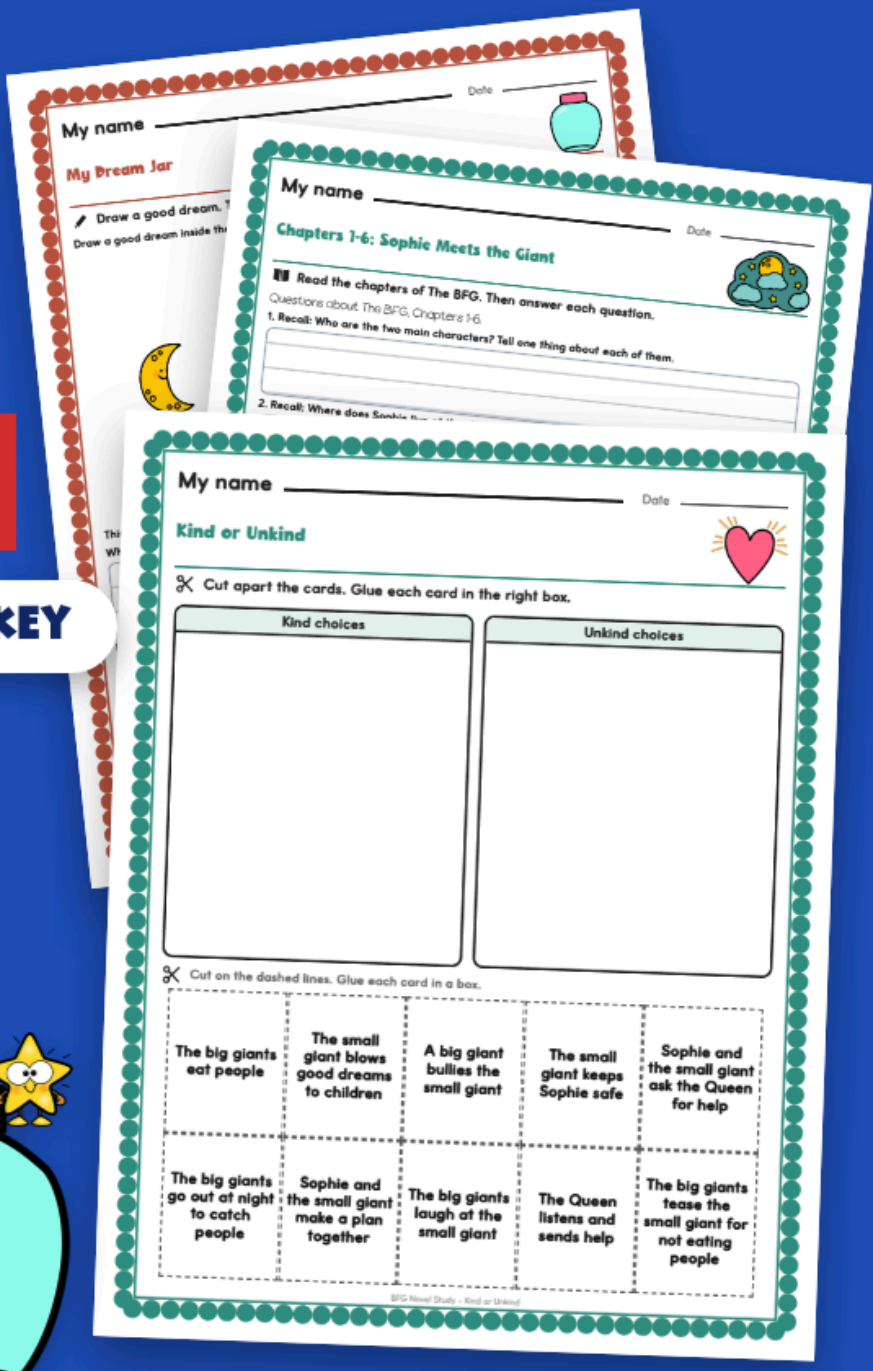
THE BFG

NOVEL STUDY

28 STUDENT PAGES + ANSWER KEY

- Chapter questions
- Vocabulary
- Invented words
- Essay and project
- Dream jar and cut-and-sort





Bright Path Sped

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Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the ruled lines stay 0.34 inch apart. Every student page is black and white inside a colored border, so it prints well on any printer.

About the novel

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PREVIEW

How to Run the Novel Study

One plan for the whole book in 4 sections, a question page for each, and pages for the characters, the problems, dreams and invented words. Chapter numbers differ by edition, so check the split below against your copy.

A plan for the whole book

Read	Part	Page	Talk about it
Chapters 1-6	Sophie Meets the Giant	6	How can someone small be strong?
Chapters 7-12	Giant Country	7	How can you tell if someone can be trusted?
Chapters 13-18	Making a Plan	8	What makes a plan work?
Chapters 19 to the end	Putting the Plan to Work	9	What changes when two people become friends?

The routine

- **Read a section** aloud, in small groups, or on their own. The questions are written for about four chapters at a time.
- **Students answer** that section's question page (pages 6 to 9). Each page has recall, think, prove-it and your-view questions.
- **Keep the character pages going** alongside: the character map (page 11), how they feel (page 13), cause and effect (page 16) and character change (page 17).
- **Talk about kindness and courage** with the problem-and-solution page (page 14), the kind-or-unkind cut-and-sort (page 15) and the guide (page 33).
- **Play with language** on the invented-word pages (pages 20 and 21) and the dream jar (page 18).
- **Teach the vocabulary** with the three word pages (pages 22 to 24) and the match (page 25).
- **Finish** with the final review (page 28), the essay (pages 29 to 31) and the final project (page 32).

Ways to use it

- Whole class: read together, answer on paper, then talk.
- Literature circles: one group per character or per page.
- Independent or sub plans: a question page and a cause-and-effect page need no prep.
- More support: use the starters and talk it through with a partner first.

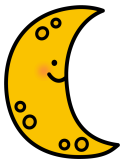
Spoilers and your answer key

The answer key (pages 34 to 37) gives away the ending. Keep it away from students until the book is finished. Most questions ask for an opinion or a detail from the student's own copy, so the key says Varies and tells you what to look for.

Chapter breaks and dates in my edition (your wording)

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____



Before You Read

Think about The BFG. Then write your ideas.

1. Look at the title, The BFG. What do you think this book is about?

2. Have you ever felt too small or too different? What was that like?

3. What do you know about giants in stories? What do you know about dreams?

4. Agree or disagree: someone small can be very strong.

☐ I agree ☐ I disagree

Why do I think so?

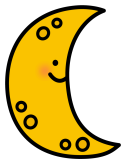
5. What do you think will happen in The BFG?

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____ Date _____

Chapters 7-12: Giant Country



Read the chapters of The BFG. Then answer each question.

Questions about The BFG, Chapters 7-12.

1. Recall: What does the giant do at night? Tell it in your own words.

2. Recall: How are the other giants different from the giant who took Sophie?

3. Think: The giant is not like the other giants. Why might he be different? Give your best idea.

4. Think: The giant is smaller than the other giants. How might that make his life harder? Give two ideas.

5. Prove it: Find a moment in these chapters when someone is kind. What does it show about that character?

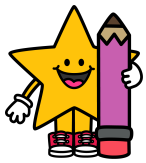
6. Your view: Would you trust the giant? Why or why not?

Starters: The book says ____. This shows ____. I think ____ because ____.

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Chapters 19 to the end: Putting the Plan to Work



Read the chapters of The BFG. Then answer each question.

Questions about The BFG, Chapters 19 to the end.

1. Recall: Retell how the story ends, in your own words.

2. Recall: What is the biggest problem in the story? Is it solved by the end? Explain.

3. Think: What might Sophie and the giant each have learned? Give one idea for each.

4. Think: Who works together to make the plan succeed? Why could one character not do it alone?

5. Prove it: Choose a character who changed or grew. Show it with one early detail and one late detail.

6. Your view: Would you change the ending? Tell what you would keep and what you would change.

Starters: The book says ____. This shows ____. I think ____ because ____.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Character Map

Fill in a map for Sophie and a map for the BFG.

Sophie

Three words that describe

What this character wants

What gets in the way

A strength

A hard moment or a mistake

A moment that shows who this character is

The BFG

Three words that describe

What this character wants

What gets in the way

A strength

A hard moment or a mistake

A moment that shows who this character is

One way Sophie and the BFG are alike

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Problem and Solution

Pick a problem from The BFG. Then write about it.

The problem I am writing about. Chapters _____

What is the problem?

Who has the problem

What that character wants

What did a character try to do about it?

Did it work? What happened because of it?

Say it this way:
The problem was ____. The character tried ____. It worked or did not work because ____.

What is another way the problem could have been solved?

What helps me when I have a problem I cannot solve alone?

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Cause and Effect

Write what happened. Then write what happened because of it.

A cause is why something happens. An effect is what happens because of it. Write two cause-and-effect pairs for each part of the book.

Chapters	What happened (the cause)	What happened because of it (the effect)
Ch. 1-6		
Ch. 7-12		
Ch. 13-18		
Ch. 19 to the end		

Starters: Because ____, ____ happened. ____ happened, so ____.

Which effect surprised me most? What caused it?

PREVIEW

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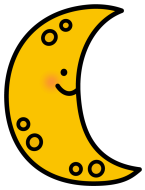
My name _____ Date _____



My Dream Jar

Draw a good dream. Then tell about it.

Draw a good dream inside the jar





This dream is for _____

What happens in the dream

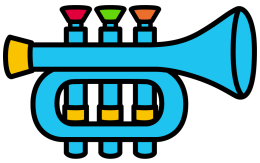
How will the child feel when they wake up? Why?

Why can a good dream help someone?

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



Invent Your Own Words

Make up three new words. Tell what each one means.

Ways to invent a word: Mash two real words together.
Change a sound or a few letters in a real word. Turn a sound you hear into a word.

New word 1

My word _____ **Made from** _____

What it means

Use it in a sentence

New word 2

My word _____ **Made from** _____

What it means

Use it in a sentence

New word 3

My word _____ **Made from** _____

What it means

Use it in a sentence

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Words: Night and Mystery

Read each word. Write a sentence. Add a word that means the same.

orphan (noun)
a child who has no parents to take care of them.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

mysterious (adjective)
hard to explain or understand.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

shadow (noun)
a dark shape made when something blocks the light.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

tremble (verb)
to shake a little because you are scared or cold.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

whisper (verb)
to speak very softly.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

curious (adjective)
wanting to find out about things.

My sentence

Same meaning _____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ezee Shed

My name _____ Date _____

Match the Meaning

Write the letter of each meaning.

1	**orphan**	☐	A	very strong and powerful
2	**mysterious**	☐	B	wanting to find out about things
3	**tremble**	☐	C	kind and soft in the way you act
4	**curious**	☐	D	a child who has no parents to take care of them
5	**enormous**	☐	E	very tall, rising high above
6	**towering**	☐	F	being brave when you feel afraid
7	**stride**	☐	G	to shake a little because you are scared or cold
8	**mighty**	☐	H	causing pain or hurting on purpose
9	**nightmare**	☐	I	very, very big
10	**courage**	☐	J	a scary dream
11	**gentle**	☐	K	hard to explain or understand
12	**cruel**	☐	L	to walk with long steps

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____



Prove It With the Text

Make a claim. Back it up with evidence.

The question I am answering

My claim: my answer

Evidence 1. Chapter _____

The book says (a short phrase)

This shows

Evidence 2. Chapter _____

The book says (a short phrase)

This shows

My reasoning: how the evidence proves my claim

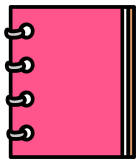
Starters: The book says ____. This shows ____. I think ____ because ____.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ideas Shop

My name _____ Date _____

My Essay: Pick a Prompt



Check one prompt. Tell what you will write about.

☐ **Prompt A**

Is the BFG a good friend?

Sophie and the BFG become friends. Is the BFG a good friend to Sophie? Give at least three reasons with evidence from the book.

☐ **Prompt B**

What makes someone brave?

Choose one brave character. What makes that character brave? Give at least three reasons with evidence from the book.

☐ **Prompt C**

How did a character change?

Choose Sophie or the BFG. How did the character change from the start to the end? Use evidence from at least three different chapters.

What I am writing about

Chapters I will use

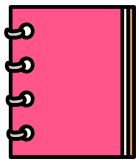
1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____ Date _____

My Essay: Draft



Write your essay here.

Title of my essay _____

PREVIEW

Answer Key

Spoiler warning: this key gives away the ending. A sample answer is one acceptable answer, not the only one; where a question asks for an opinion or a detail from the student's copy, it says Varies and tells you what to look for. Chapter groups are a suggested split; check them against your edition.

Chapters 1-6: Sophie Meets the Giant (page 6)

1. **Recall: The two main characters.** Sophie, a girl, and the BFG, a giant. Varies for the detail: accept any accurate detail the student can find in their copy.
2. **Recall: Where Sophie lives.** An orphanage, a home for children who have no parents to care for them. Varies for the description: accept any detail the student can point to.
3. **Think: A surprise at night.** Varies. Look for a feeling and a reason; fear, wonder and curiosity are all fair answers.
4. **Think: Taken away.** Sample: scared and alone, and wanting to be safe or to go home. Accept any feeling and want that the student explains.
5. **Prove it: A first impression.** Varies. The phrase is short and copied exactly, and the explanation links it to the impression.
6. **Your view: Looks can fool you.** Varies. Look for an opinion with a reason.

Chapters 7-12: Giant Country (page 7)

1. **Recall: The giant's job.** He catches dreams and delivers them to sleeping children. Accept any accurate retelling in the student's words.
2. **Recall: The other giants.** They are bigger, and they are cruel; they hurt people. Varies for the extra details.
3. **Think: Why be different?.** Varies. Look for an idea with a reason from the text or from what the student has seen so far.
4. **Think: Smaller than the rest.** Sample: the others can push him around, and he may be teased or left out. Accept two ideas the student can explain.
5. **Prove it: A kind moment.** Varies. A detail from these chapters, named by chapter, and a trait it shows.
6. **Your view: Would you trust him?.** Varies. Opinion with a reason.

Chapters 13-18: Making a Plan (page 8)

1. **Recall: The problem.** The cruel giants keep hurting people, and they want to stop them. Accept any accurate wording.
2. **Recall: Who could help.** The Queen. Varies for the reason: accept any reason the student can support.
3. **Think: A plan or a rush.** Sample: a plan lets you think about what could go wrong and who can help. Look for a reason that makes sense.
4. **Think: Why dreams matter.** Varies. Look for an idea about hopes, fears, or how a dream can change how someone feels.
5. **Prove it: Brave but scared.** Varies. A feeling, an action and a detail, named by chapter.
6. **Your view: Who would you ask?.** Varies. A person with a reason.

PREVIEW

Answer Key

The cut-and-sort, cause and effect, character change, and the creative pages.

Kind or Unkind (page 15)

Kind choices: The small giant blows good dreams to children, The small giant keeps Sophie safe, Sophie and the small giant ask the Queen for help, Sophie and the small giant make a plan together, The Queen listens and sends help.

Unkind choices: The big giants eat people, A big giant bullies the small giant, The big giants go out at night to catch people, The big giants laugh at the small giant, The big giants tease the small giant for not eating people.

Cause and Effect (page 16)

- Each row needs a cause and an effect that are really connected: the effect would not have happened without the cause.
- If the two are in the wrong order, ask the student: which happened first?
- Accept any accurate pair from the section. There are two rows for each of the four sections.

Character Change (page 17)

- Look for a different word or detail for the start, the middle and the end, for each character.
- A strong answer names a moment that caused the change and the chapter it is in.
- A character may stay the same in some ways: accept that if the student shows it with a detail.

Invented Words, Dream Jar and Final Project (pages 20, 21, 18, 32)

- There is no list of right words: every student invents their own. Check that each new word has a meaning, shows which real words it came from, and is used in a sentence that makes the meaning clear.
- On the word lab, a partner who can guess the meaning from the sentence shows the word works. If they cannot, ask the student to add a clue to the sentence.
- Dream jar and project: look for a plan that fits the project chosen, details from the book that are accurate, and at least one vocabulary word.

Notes on the sort and the open pages (your wording)

PREVIEW

Essay Rubric

For the essay on pages 29 to 31. Five criteria, three descriptions each; add your own notes.

Student _____ Prompt (A, B or C) _____ Date _____

Criterion	Strong	Getting there	Not yet	My notes
Opinion	A clear opinion that answers the prompt	An opinion, but it is vague or partly off the prompt	No clear opinion	
Evidence	Three or more details from the book, named by chapter	One or two details, or details with no chapter	No details from the book	
Explaining	Each detail is explained and tied back to the opinion	Some explaining; some details stand alone	Details are listed but not explained	
Organization	Opening, three reasons, closing; clear order	Most parts are there; order is hard to follow	Parts are missing or mixed up	
Language	Vocabulary words used correctly; few spelling errors	A vocabulary word or two; some errors	No vocabulary words; errors get in the way	

How to use it

Circle or highlight one box in each row. There is no total: your notes and the student's next step matter more. The student's checklist is on page 30.

PREVIEW

The BFG at Home

Dear family, our class is reading a novel about a girl, a giant and a plan to help others. These questions are for talking, not for a grade. Short answers are fine.

Student _____

Chapters we are reading _____

Three things to talk about

- Ask your student: what is the story about so far, in three sentences?
- Ask: how do you think each character feels right now, and why?
- Ask: can you invent a new word and tell me what it means? Use it in a sentence together.

My words from home

One thing I learned _____

One feeling I noticed _____

A word I invented _____

Words that may come up

Courage: being brave when you feel afraid. **Gentle:** kind and soft in the way you act. **Curious:** wanting to find out about things. **Imagine:** to make a picture in your mind.

Note from the teacher

Note from home

PREVIEW