



Year 4 Guided Reading

DAILY NEWS

Wednesday 10th September 2008

75p

A Purrfect Adventure

He may only be a few months old, but Leo the kitten has already proven he has a sense of adventure.

His ordeal began last Thursday when his owners, Mr and Mrs McNee of Longford Street, Edinburgh, decided to help their son, Adam, move house.

Having no idea that Leo had already crept on board the removal van, it wasn't long before Adam and his belongings were on their 372mile journey to London.

Unaware that an extra passenger was on board, and unable to hear his cries because of the roar of the motorway, it wasn't until the driver reopened the van doors that Leo was found – curled up and snoozing on an old woollen jumper.

“As soon as we couldn't find him we knew he was probably on his way to see the Queen,” laughed Mrs McNee.

And it's not the first time little Leo has used up one of his nine lives either.

“He gets everywhere,” explained Mr McNee, “under the laundry, in next door's pond, on the shed roof. I'm surprised he's not asked for a passport before now!”

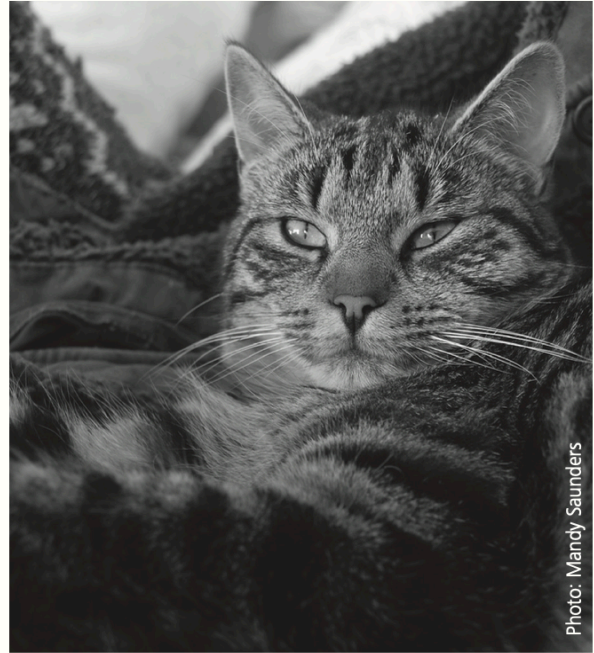


Photo: Mandy Saunders

Lucky Leo arrives in London

A little shocked but safe after his long journey, Leo arrived in London wanting only a saucer of milk and a bowl of cat food. Adam plans to return Leo to his Mum and Dad the next time he visits Scotland.

Being such an adventurous traveller, I wonder if Leo plans to visit his African cousins in the near future?

Crossword 12. Ask Anthony 18. Weather 17. TV listings 27. Financial reports 39

World round-up 45. Sporting results 56. Sport 58.

Monday 8th June

Read through the text and answer the following questions.

1. What is the kitten called?
2. Where did he travel from?
3. How long was that journey?
4. What did he travel in?
5. When did he go missing?
6. Who does Leo belong to?

Tuesday 9th June

Read through the text and answer the following questions.

1. Is the motorway loud or quiet?
2. What word tells you this?
3. Why do you think the writer uses this word to describe the traffic?
4. How has the writer played with the word 'perfect' in the title? Does this suggest a happy or sad ending?
5. What is 'photo' short for? What do we call a person who takes photos?

Wednesday 10th June

Use your text and answer the questions below.

1. Was Mrs McNee worried when she couldn't find Leo?
2. Would Mr McNee feel the same way?
3. Was Leo scared during the journey?
4. Did the journey make Leo feel tired?
5. Why do you think the McNees called their kitten Leo?

Thursday 11th June

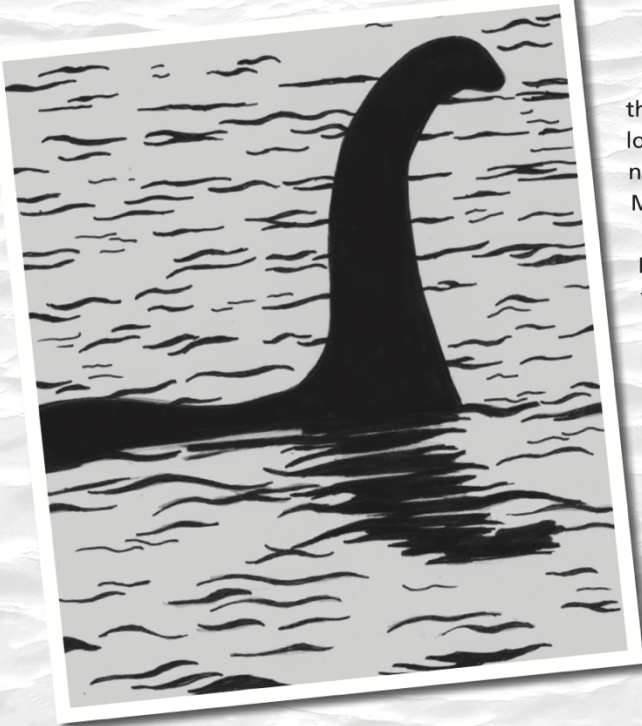
Use your text and answer the questions below.

1. Why did nobody notice Leo getting in to the removal van?
2. Who do you think Leo's 'African cousins' are in the final paragraph?
3. What does the fact that people often say cats have nine lives tell us about them?
4. How do we know that this is a newspaper article?
5. Why do you think a photograph was included in the article?

Friday 12th June

Comprehension. Read the text on the next page and answer the questions.

THE LOCH NESS MONSTER



Is there really a monster swimming in the waters of Loch Ness? Photographs, videos and eye witness reports all seem to say 'yes'. But if there is a monster, why have so few people seen it? And why can't scientists find it? For many years people from around the world have puzzled at this great mystery. Perhaps it is time we looked at the evidence for ourselves.

On the 14th April 1933, Mr and Mrs Mackay were coming home from a trip to Inverness. It was almost three o' clock in the afternoon. Then, out of the corner of her eye, Mrs Mackay saw something moving in the Loch*. As her husband parked the car, they both saw two enormous black humps rising and falling in

the water. The creature then sank from sight. It wasn't long before they were tickling the ears of a local newspaper reporter and the legend of the Loch Ness Monster was born.

But what did Mr and Mrs Mackay really see? Were the humps two dolphins swimming together? The dark water and shadows make it hard to see. And the humps were, after all, very far away.

In December that same year, footprints were found on the edge of the loch. Everyone was very disappointed when they turned out to be a hoax using an old umbrella stand made with a hippo's back foot!

This famous photograph was taken by Robert Kenneth Wilson, a London doctor who was on holiday in Scotland. The photo shows a long neck and small head, like that of a dinosaur. When it was printed in the Daily Mail in April 1934, many people talked about it. Was it true? Was this the first piece of hard evidence that the monster exists?

A journalist called Alastair Boyd said the photograph was a fake. He claimed it was a 30 cm plastic model glued on to a toy submarine. Wilson said it was not!

After looking at some of the evidence, what do you think? Does the Loch Ness Monster really exist or is it just an old story? Perhaps the best part of the story is the fact that we just don't know and the mystery (and the Loch Ness Monster) lives on.

**Loch = A Scottish word for lake*

Questions

1. *When did Mr and Mrs Mackay see the Loch Ness Monster?*
2. *Where were they travelling from?*
3. *What is the Scottish word for lake?*
4. *How were they travelling home?*
5. *Who took the photograph?*
6. *The writer says Mr and Mrs Mackay were 'tickling the ears' of the local newspaper reporter. What do you think the writer means by this?*
 - (a) He was really being tickled by Mr and Mrs Mackay?*
 - (b) The journalist liked the sound of an interesting story he could write about?*