

**Book 36**

**The School Camp**

**Chapter 2**

**A Day of Surprises**

## **A Day of Surprises**

**1**

**again AGAIN again He forgot his keys again.**

**parlour baker nervous breakfast front**

**track trek hedge ditch graze calm**

**gallop walk ride shout scream tickle**

**pyjamas, pillow, sleeping bag, tent**

**The baby tried to crawl again and again.**

## **A Day of Surprises**

**2**

**Not surprisingly, Abi and her friends are rather tired on Saturday morning. But they are all excited too. The whole class is going pony riding.**

**The sun is shining, and even Mr Snodgrass seems to be in a good mood.**

## **A Day of Surprises**

**3**

**There are no mums and dads with us, so you all have to help get your own breakfast, says Mr Snodgrass. Some of you can go with Mrs Stokes to get the milk. The rest will go to the baker's in the village in my group.**

**Abi goes with Mrs Stokes to the milking**

**parlour, where the farmer is milking the cows with a milking machine. He shows the children the old fashioned way of hand milking a cow, and lets Abi have a go. She has milked a goat on a farm trip, but she is pleased to try again.**

**The cow is very quiet, munching hay as Abi**

milks her. Abi can hear and smell the warm milk splashing into the bucket.

You can all have that for your breakfast, says the farmer. It is the freshest milk you will taste.

I don't want that stinky milk, shouts Billy rudely. It smells of cow poo in this

**barn, and I bet the milk smells of it too!**

**Billy is making a lot of noise and the cows  
don't like it. Abi's cow starts moving about and  
flicking her tail. Just as Billy bends down  
to smell the bucket of milk, the cow flicks  
her tail in his face, and SPLAT! A big,**

## **A Day of Surprises**

**7**

**wet cow pat plops onto the leg of Billy's  
jeans! All the other children think it is very funny.**

**You deserved that, says Abi. You were very unkind  
about the nice fresh milk this cow is giving us.**

**You made her do that, shouts Billy. I'll  
get you back, Abi!**



## **A Day of Surprises**

**8**

**Soon the breakfast has been eaten and cleared away, and the children and teachers set off to go pony trekking. Mr Snodgrass is rather nervous of ponies, but he doesn't want the children to know.**

**Nobody notices a lump under Billy's coat as he gets on to his pony. All the**

**ponies get into a line, and they set off down the track at a walk. Billy makes sure that Abi is just in front of him.**

**Soon they reach a wider track and the ponies start to trot. Billy feels inside his coat. He pulls out a loaded water pistol and**

**aims it at Abi's pony. He fires!**

**WHOOSH! The jet of cold water hits the  
pony on the bottom. It is very surprised, and  
rears up. But Abi is a good rider and holds  
on. She soon manages to calm her pony  
down again.**

**Mr Snodgrass is not so lucky! He is riding a big brown pony just ahead of Abi's white one. It is startled when it hears the noise, and gallops off down the track at top speed. Mr Snodgrass hangs on for dear life, shouting at the pony to stop. But it is**

**no good! The pony is in a panic and keeps galloping.**

**It keeps going until it reaches a tall hedge, where it stops without warning. Mr Snodgrass flies over the pony's head with a loud yell. He is quite lucky to land in the**

**hedge, as there is a ditch full of dirty water  
very nearby! He is not so lucky that the hedge he  
lands in is thorny with very sharp spikes, and with  
lots of stinging nettles underneath it!**

**Mr Snodgrass doesn't get back on his  
pony again, and Billy is not allowed to ride**

**any more. He has to spend a boring time back  
at the camp site with Mr Snodgrass, who  
moans again and again about his scratches and stings!**

**The rest of the children enjoy a lovely ride, and  
eat a picnic lunch in the woods. This gives  
the ponies a rest and time to graze, ready for the**

**trek back to the farm.**

**Abi and her friends are very tired at bedtime, and all get ready fast. As Abi slides into her nice, cosy sleeping bag, she feels something tickling her feet and then running up her pyjama leg. At the same time, Martyna**



**yells that there is something slimy in her pyjama pocket, and Jane shrieks that there are worms under her pillow! Soon all the girls are screaming and rushing out of the tent again.**

**Oh dear, says Mr Snodgrass, we seem to have visitors! I think the girls have a**

**few extra little friends sharing the sleeping bags.**

**Martyna seems to have a nice fat slug,**

**Jane has some lovely plump worms, and**

**Abi has the fattest, hairiest spider I've**

**seen in my life! How lucky we are to have**

**all this wildlife sharing our camp, aren't we?**

**And what a day of surprises it's been for all  
of us! As he goes back to his tent, Mr  
Snodgrass has a big smile on his face.  
He's pretty sure he won't have any  
nonsense from the girls again!**

**Abi says**

**What did Billy hide under his coat?**

**What colour was my pony?**

**Which of the girls got the worst surprise?**

**Write a story about what you think my class  
did at camp on Sunday.**