

6 THE SPIDER TEACHER'S NOTES

Objectives

SUMMARY	Ruby is very angry with Dan because he laughed at her fear of spiders. She is even angrier with him when he seems to want to help her get over this fear, but actually plays a joke on her. Ruby talks to Ellie about what happened. Ellie suggests that they get Dan back by playing a joke on him. This joke leads to Dan apologizing to Ruby and admitting that everyone is afraid of something.
LANGUAGE	past simple, past simple irregular verbs
USEFUL INFORMATION	A general fear of something is often referred to as a “phobia”. Fear of spiders is known as “arachnophobia”; “ophidiophobia” is the fear of snakes.

THINK ABOUT

If students have already watched the video, refer them back to episode 6. Ask what they remember about the story (e.g., *What joke does Dan play on Ruby? What joke does Ellie play on Dan?*). Once students have reviewed the story, focus on being afraid of something such as an animal and what you can do to stop feeling scared.

- 1 Now refer students to the three questions. Start by eliciting types of animal commonly seen in the students’ country and where in particular they can be seen.
Allow students to discuss the questions in pairs then report back to the class.
- 2 Ask students to read through the sentences so they know what they need to listen for. Then students watch the video and complete the sentences with the correct words.

Mixed ability idea

Ask students to try to complete the sentences before they watch the video.

Answers

1 angry 2 works 3 friend 4 going 5 box 6 Cool
7 happened 8 told 9 learned

- 3 Ask students to read through the sentences before watching the video so they know what they need to listen for. Then students watch the video again and match the sentences with the speakers.

Mixed ability idea

Ask students to try to match the sentences to the speakers before they listen.

Answers

1 c 2 a 3 e 4 b 5 d

Optional activity

Ask students to think of situations where they can use these phrases.

THINK BACK

- 4 Students work in pairs and decide if the sentences are true or false. They correct the false sentences.

Answers

1 F He shows her something on his smartphone. 2 T 3 T
4 T 5 F He wanted to know everything about it. 6 F He apologizes to her for the joke he played on her.

THINK THROUGH

ROLE PLAY Interviewing Dan

Explain that the students are going to role play an interview with Dan about his fear of snakes.

Read through the task with the class. Draw students’ attention to the phrases included in the instructions. Remind students that they can use any relevant words or phrases from the worksheets as well as any others they know.

Monitor and offer support while students prepare their role plays. Encourage as many students as possible to perform their role plays. Consider asking pairs to perform for each other. The “audience” pair can monitor language use and make corrections if necessary. This can also be done as a full-class exercise.

Optional activity

Students can research common or unusual phobias online, as well as ways to deal with fears, and then share what they find out with the class.