

# Crompton House School

## English Department



### Year 7 Summer Reading Challenge

Complete the activities while you read the book.  
You can use the space provided to complete your  
answers, or you can print out the booklet and  
handwrite them in.

**Prizes will be awarded for the best  
completed workbooks.**

**Name:**

1

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Enjoy!



**Sora**

The student reading app.

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- Select Crompton House Church of England School from the scroll down menu
- User name – johnsmith22 (firstnamesurname + year started at CHS)
- Password – ddmmyy students DOB in 6 digit format.
- If you have trouble logging on email [learning-zone@cromptonhouse.org](mailto:learning-zone@cromptonhouse.org)
- For an overview on how to use Sora click [here!](#)

## Reading the book

You can read this book as an E-book or as an audio book. Both are available on SORA.

### About the Author:

Darren Simpson is in his thirties and lives with his wife and children in Nottingham. He has written numerous adult short stories and The Dust on Moth, a crowdfunded multimedia collaboration including music downloads, art and photography. This is his first book for younger readers.

If you are interested in reading more about Darren Simpson, take a look at his website which can be found here:

<https://darrensimpsonwrites.co.uk/>



Pre-Reading

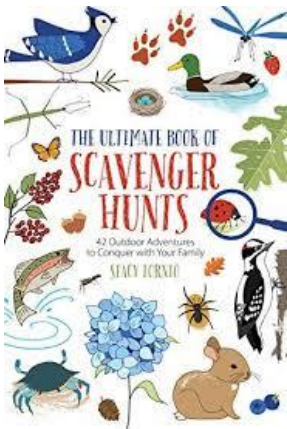
Vocabulary

<p><b>Definition:</b> [ Verb] If people or animals <b>scavenge for</b> things, they collect them by searching among waste or unwanted objects.</p> <p>[Noun] A scavenger is a person who collects things discarded by others.</p>	<p><b>Synonyms:</b> search, hunt, forage, rummage, salvage</p>
<p>scavenger [noun]</p>	
<p><b>Examples:</b> <i>The foxes come and scavenge the bins.</i></p> <p><i>Ayaan had to scavenge information from newspapers and journals..</i></p>	<p><b>Non- Examples</b></p> <p>She was a complete scavenger and carelessly threw away her belongings.</p>

Explain in your own words why the non-example is the incorrect use of the word scavenger.



How does this image link to the word scavenger?



Why do you think a scavenger hunt is called this?



*What is happening in this image? Label what you can see.*



In this image, people are searching for items amongst rubbish waste at a landfill site.

*Glossary: A landfill is a method of getting rid of very large amounts of rubbish by burying it in a large deep hole.*

*Why do you think people might do this?*

*What might they be looking for?*

*How might this scene link to the word 'scavenger'?*

*What do you imagine the conditions might be like for someone working in this environment?*



Curious?

Find out more about people who work at landfill sites by reading the following article:

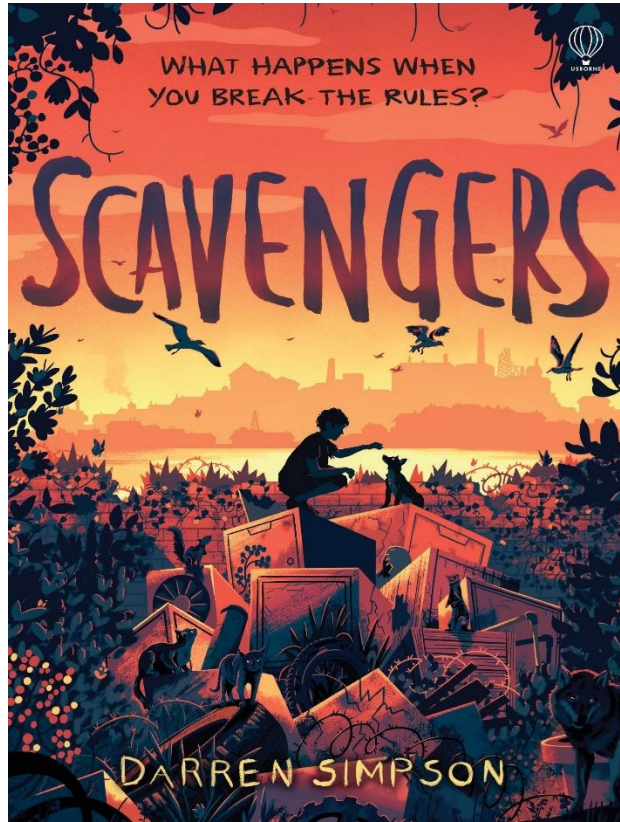
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jan/29/manila-philippines-recycling-payatas>

## Pre-Reading



### Predictions

What are your impressions from the book cover?  
Label what you can see.



On the back cover, the blurb reads:

*'Landfill has lived his whole life as a scavenger, running with wooflings, swimming with turtles and feasting on whatever he can catch.'*

*Old Babagoo has always looked after him- on one condition. Follow Babagoo's rules. And the most important rule of all is NEVER go beyond the wall.*

*But Landfill longs to venture Outside. And some rules are made to be broken.'*

What do you predict might happen in the story?

## Now Read

Use the following reading strategies to help with your understanding of the story.



### Predictions

As you are reading, make predictions about what is going to happen next to the characters and how the plot might evolve.



### Connections

As you are reading, make connections to the word 'scavenger'.



### Clarify

As you are reading, make a note of vocabulary you might not understand so you can look them up or discuss them with someone.



### Questions

As you are reading, make a note of any questions you might have. Consider, what is the writer trying to show us?

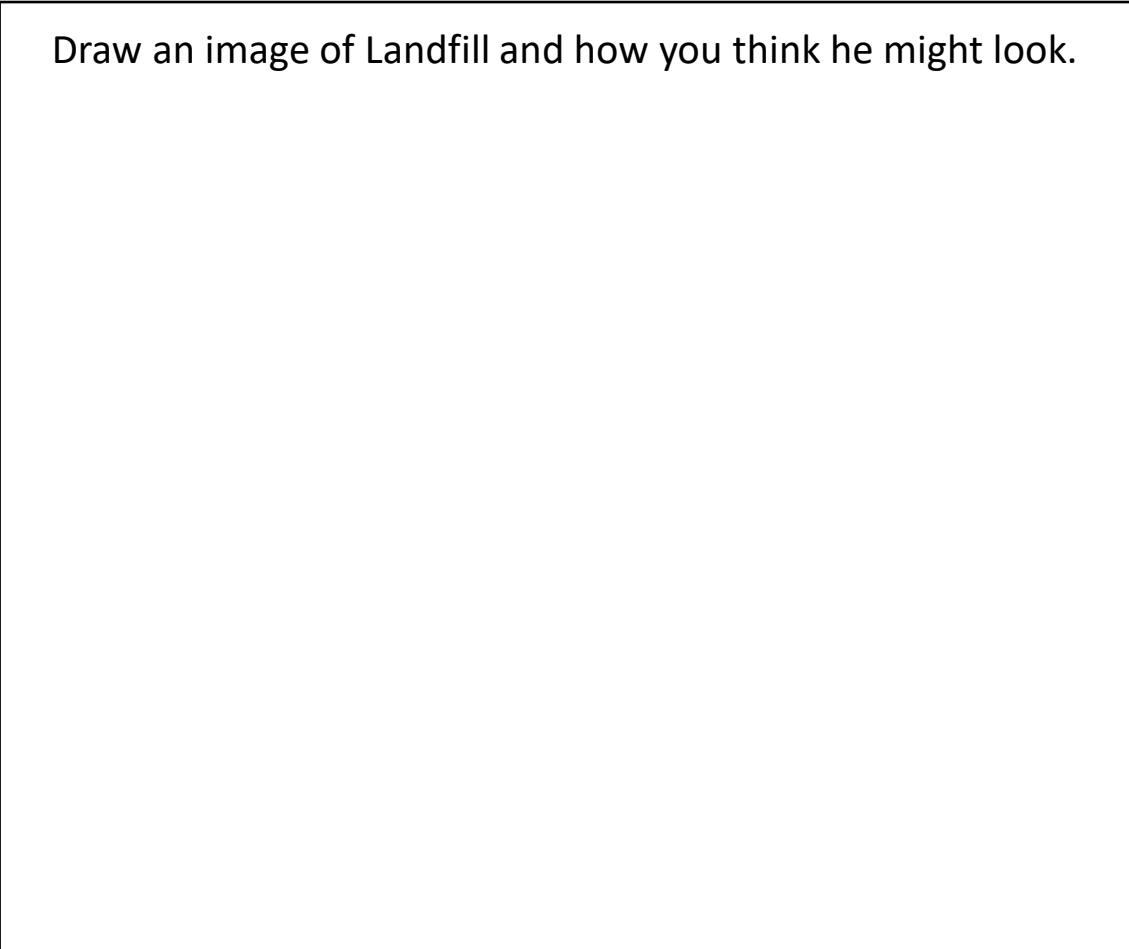
## Chapter 1-3

### Landfill

**“The boy growled, dropped to all fours and took one end of the stick between his teeth.”**

- 1. *What impression do you have of this boy?***
  
- 2. *What do ‘growled’ and ‘dropped to all fours’ remind you of?***
  
- 3. *Why do you think he might be behaving like this?***
  
- 1. *Why do you think he might be called Landfill?***

Draw an image of Landfill and how you think he might look.





Vocabulary

<p><b>Definition:</b> A <b>neologism</b> is a new word or expression in a language, or a new meaning for an existing word or expression.</p>	<p><b>Synonyms:</b>  new word, buzz word, coinage, new phrase</p>
<p><b>Examples:</b> She caught up a popular neologism from the newspapers. As the teacher listened to the students chatting among themselves, she was confused by a neologism she heard repeatedly.</p>	<p><b>Link it:</b>  Can you think of a new word or expression that you and your friends might use?</p>

neologisms  
[noun]

Both Babagoo and Landfill use neologisms.

Some examples are:

- Wooflings
- Boyling
- Jabberhole
- Grubbins
- Spit Pit

What do you think these words might mean?  
Label the images with the word you think matches them.



## *Neologisms*



Use this page to record down any neologisms you come across whilst reading.

# Hinterland

Hinterland is an unfamiliar setting with lots of names for things we haven't come across before. To help with our understanding of this setting, the language used by the writer is really important in building our mental imagery.



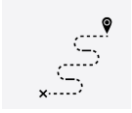
Scan through chapters 1-3 and make a note of the names of places and how they are described.

The author, Darren Simpson, used this derelict, abandoned industrial site as inspiration for Hinterland. Is it what you expected?



*The Cwm Coke Works*

<p><b>Definition:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Land lying behind a coast or the shore of a river</li><li>2. An area lying beyond what is visible or know.</li></ol>	<p><b>Synonyms</b></p> <p>Middle of nowhere, back of beyond, wild</p>
<p>hinterland</p>	
<p>They were staying at the hinterland of southern Italy.</p>	<p>How does this definition link to the setting of Hinterland in the novel?</p>



## *My Map of Hinterland*

Create a map of the setting which includes the following key places:

- The Ivy Stack
- The Pale Loomer
- Muttborough
- The Gully
- The Nook
- The Rippletop

Label the map with key language used to describe these places.

## Chapters 4-5

### The Rules

*“To worry you have to care, and if you cared, you’d respect the rules.”*

1. Do you agree with this viewpoint?
2. Does questioning the rules show a lack of respect?
3. Is it healthy to blindly obey rules without ever questioning them?
4. By questioning the rules, is Landfill showing disrespect to Babagoo?
5. Do you think Babagoo is fair to say that Landfill doesn’t care?
6. Why do you think Babagoo has so many rules?
7. Why do you think societies make rules?



Vocabulary

<p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p>If you describe a person or an organization as <b>authoritarian</b>, you are critical of them controlling everything rather than letting people decide things for themselves.</p>	<p><b>Synonyms:</b></p> <p><a href="#">strict</a>, <a href="#">severe</a>, <a href="#">absolute</a>, <a href="#">harsh</a></p>
<p><b>Examples:</b></p> <p><i>Don became the overly strict authoritarian he felt his brother needed.</i></p> <p><i>My grand-father was a strict, authoritarian.</i></p>	<p><b>Non-Example</b></p> <p><i>He was a relaxed, carefree authoritarian who hated being in control.</i></p> <p>Why is this the incorrect use of the word authoritarian?</p>

Can you think of someone who you might consider to be an authoritarian?

Who would you describe as an authoritarian from the story? Explain why.

What might have led this character to being so controlling?

## *Babagoo's Rules*

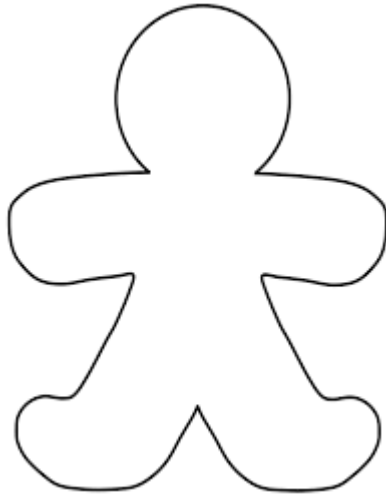


Use this page to record down the rules that Babagoo tells Landfill.

*What do you think these rules tell us about the character, Babagoo?*

## Babagoo

Draw and label an image of Babagoo.



What is the relationship like between Babagoo and Landfill?  
Label the Venn diagram to show your understanding.

### Similarities

Difference

Landfill

Difference

Babagoo

What is similar  
about these two  
characters?

## Landfill: Boy or animal?

*“He cackled as warm water pounded his skin, and with the guttering bubbling behind him, loped on all fours to the Gully.”*

In this sentence, what impression do you get of the way Landfill moves?

Why is Landfill so animal-like in his behaviour? What reasons are there for this behaviour?

Challenge: What other famous fictional character might Landfill remind you of? Use the images below as a hint.



What are the similarities and differences between this character and Landfill?

Vocabulary

<p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><b>Zoomorphism</b> means assigning a person, event, or a god with animalistic characteristics.</p>	<p>Antonym: <b>anthropomorphism</b> (when animals are described as human).</p>
<p><b>Examples:</b></p> <p>My brother eats like a horse.</p> <p>The little boy rolled around in the mud like a pig.</p> <p>He barked sharply, snapping at his every word.</p>	<p><b>Link it</b></p> <p>· Why does the writer use zoomorphism to describe Landfill's actions and behaviour?</p>



Complete the analytical paragraph by completing the blanks.

The writer uses **zoomorphism** to show the reader that Landfill behaves like \_\_\_\_\_

For example, the writer states Landfill, ‘loped on all fours to the gully.’ In other words, Landfill is walking like \_\_\_\_\_

The writer is trying to make the reader understand that Landfill \_\_\_\_\_



## Chapter 6-8

### Hunger's Eye

‘Landfill gawped and moaned, and became aware of something else. Among the sky’s pricks of light, a red star seemed to be blinking. Transfixed, he watched the red star grow, and as it rose he heard a familiar rumbling. The rumbling became louder while the star drew closer and Landfill realised that Hunger’s Eye was coming for him.’ pg 66

‘He squinted and thought he saw the star attached to something dark – a shadow, vaguely triangular and fading into the night.’

Read the description of Hunger’s EYE. What type of vehicle do you think this is and why? Use the description to help you.



a) Helicopter



b) Aeroplane



a) Alien spaceship

Landfill’s response:

“gawped and moaned”

“transfixed”

“But still Landfill couldn’t move.”

“agony” “tear-filled eyes.”

Why is Landfill so scared by this vehicle?



Chapters 9-11

“Knowledge is Power”

Francis Bacon 1561-1626

When Landfill witnesses Woolf giving birth to a litter of pups, he begins to question where he is from and his life with Babagoo.

Babagoo tells Landfill that he has lied about the swelling in order to protect him.

Why does Babagoo lie to Landfill?

Complete the table with any examples of lies that Landfill is told.

Lie	Consequence of knowing the truth
The swelling is an illness	Landfill questions where he came from.
Landfill came from a seed and flower which Babagoo found.	

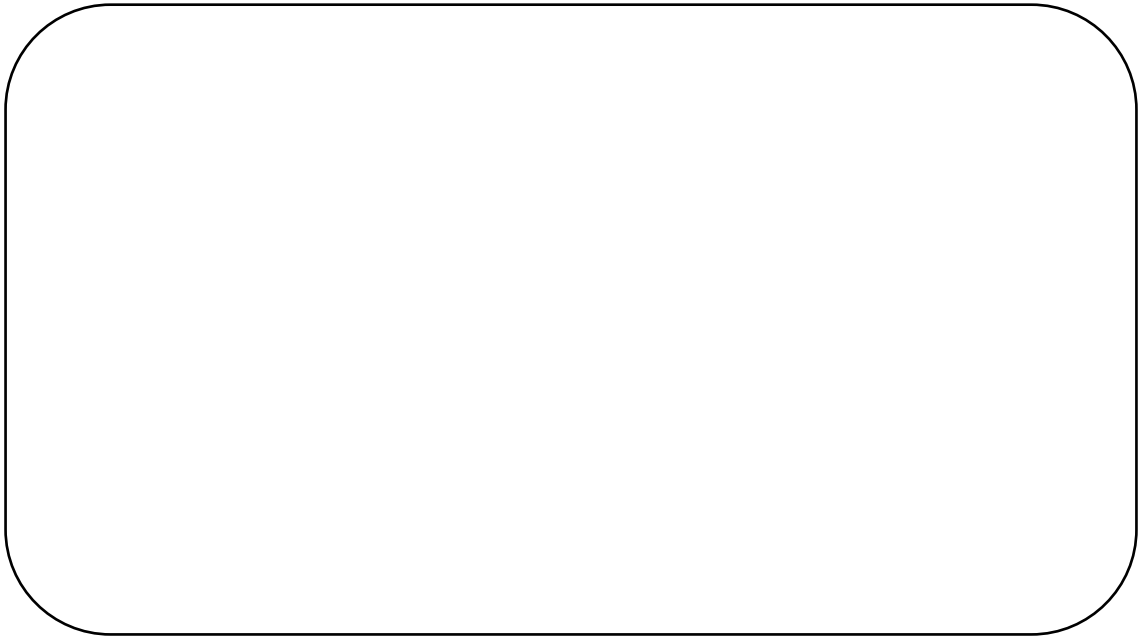


When Landfill uncovers this lie, how does it change him?

## Outside

On pages 102-103 Landfill sees the Outside for the first time.

Draw a picture of how Outside is described.



### Landfill's reaction

"his mouth hung open." "he blinked"  
"eyes watered" "strained his ears" "clambered out"  
"swayed" "struck by a rush of vertigo" "crouched"  
"barely stand" "queasy collision." "clung"  
"drag himself"

Circle the words which you think best describe Landfill's emotions at his first sight of Outside.

excited                  terrified                  overwhelmed

apprehensive                  fearful                  nervous

calm                  composed                  stunned



Is it possible to feel more than one emotion at once?

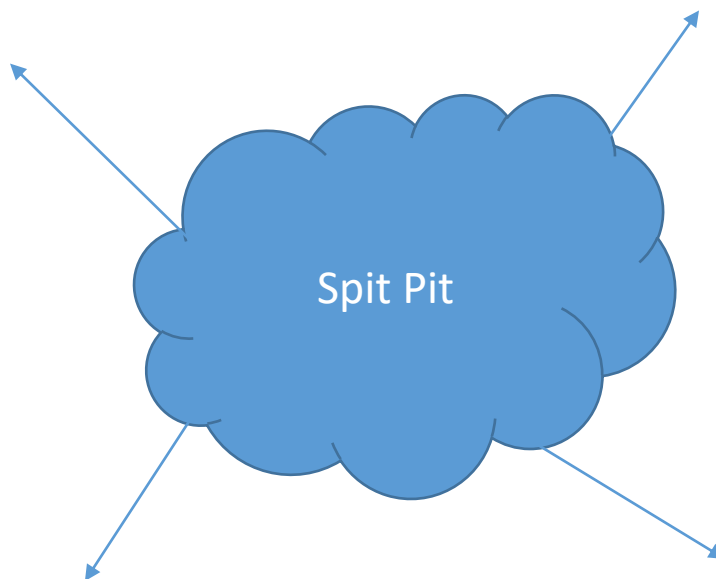
## Chapters 15-19

### The Spit Pit

Why do you think the Spit Pit has this name?



Label the reasons why the Spit Pit might have this neologism.



Babagoo is persuaded to take Landfill to the Spit Pit. There could be many reasons for this. Tick the ones you think might apply.

- ☐ He is getting older and needs to teach Landfill how to scavenge.
- ☐ He wants to please Landfill.
- ☐ He wants Landfill to enjoy himself.
- ☐ He wants to share the beauty of the Spit Pit.
- ☐ He wants Landfill to see that the Spit Pit isn't a nice place to visit.

## The Outsider

Re-read pages 149-154. Note any key words or phrases used to describe the Outsider.

“a thick black boot”

“flapping trousers”

“gloved fingers”

“Its eyes were hidden behind thick, plastic goggles”

“white hard hat”

“A wide bandage, stained with dirt and blood”

“covering the tip of its nose, its mouth, chin and neck”

“grimy shirt”

Draw a picture of how you imagine The Outsider to look. Use the textual evidence to help you.





# Longwhite

Read the words in the table. Consider Longwhite’s role in the story and tick which ones you think apply to Longwhite.

Word	Definition	Longwhite
confidant	a person to whom private matters are confided.	
conscience	the sense of right and wrong that governs a person's thoughts and actions.	
ally	a country, person, or group with an agreement to support another.	
enemy	a person who is hostile or opposed to a person, group, or idea.	
antagonist	an opponent.	



How important are animals to Landfill?

Why do you think this is?

What is your favourite animal in the story and why?

# Babagoo’s Past

We get hints as a reader about Babagoo’s life before he came to Hinterland. Scan back through the text and make notes of what we learn about:

Family	
Friends	
Job	
Home	

How do you think Babagoo came to Hinterland? What could have happened to him to make him reject ‘Outside’? Write your ideas below.



Part Five: Outsiders

Landfill has been told throughout his life about how dreadful the Outsiders are. When he does go outside, what does he find?

Landfill is in danger	Landfill isn't in danger

Naming Objects

When Landfill ventures outside he sees many things he does not have a name for. Can you identify what these things are from their description? Match the description to the correct image.

“small, plastic rectangle emitting a small shifting light.”



“thunder from rolling machines.”



“huge rectangle of light which hovered and flashed against a smooth yellow wall.”



Vocabulary

<p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p>If you <u>d</u>escribe something as <b>ambiguous</b>, you mean that it is unclear or confusing because it can be understood in more than one way.</p>	<p>Synonyms: <a href="#">unclear</a> <a href="#">puzzling</a> <a href="#">uncertain</a> <a href="#">obscure</a> <a href="#">vague</a></p>
<p><b>Examples:</b></p> <p><i>The ending was very ambiguous.</i></p> <p>Her songs are intentionally ambiguous.</p>	<div>ambiguous [adjective]</div> <p>Link it</p> <p><i>What parts of the book would you describe as ambiguous?</i></p>

At the end of the book, it seems as if Landfill has made a decision to seek help from the Outsiders.  
What helps him come to this decision?

What do you think will happen to Landfill?

The author’s dedication at the start of the book is:  
***“For the children taught to build walls, and the children put behind them.”***

What do you think the writer meant by this?

How does it link to the story?

## Timeline

Create a timeline going down the page with the key events from the story.





## Review

**Write a book review for *Scavengers*.**

*Include details of the characters, genre, topics raised, anything unusual about the way it is written. Remember not to give away the story but instead you should be encouraging people to read the story (or telling them to avoid it if you didn't like it).*



Curious? Has this story raised questions for you? Read this interview by Darren Simpson to find out more about the inspiration behind the story.

<https://thereadingrealm.co.uk/2019/03/13/scavengers-an-interview-with-darren-simpson/>

# More recommendations to enjoy on Sora

