Guided Reading Resource 18 – Style and Language

Chapter 18 – Return to Saint Denis: The Christmas holiday comes to an abrupt end and the main characters travel back to Saint Denis in Paris.

Storytellers sometimes rely on your previous reading experiences to make connections; they use structures which tease your understanding, they lead you down alleyways, they trick you. As a reader, you should try to infer and deduce the patterns by trying to make sense out of the seemingly random nature of events.

- In this chapter, an American car pulls out behind their car and follows them out of the village. In your opinion is the car important? Is the writer trying to trick you? What do you think is the significance of this car, if any?
- Is 'An Extra-Ordinary Beginning' similar to any other book/s you have read? If yes, in what ways is it similar? If no, do you think this 'An Extra-Ordinary Beginning' is really this unique? Justify your answer.

With a partner, discuss if there are there any other points in the story when you thought, 'I wonder why the author wrote that.' Think about characters and events; try to answer your own questions.

Discuss similarities between 'An Extra-Ordinary Beginning' and other books you have read. Using your previous reading experience, discuss with your partner, what you think will happen? Will this book have a similar plot line to other book or will it differ in some way?

Your notes:

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