

Reading extract and questions:

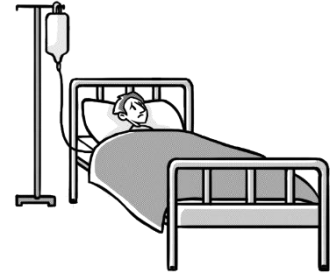
Lucky Rudi

Set A/B

The nurse pulled the curtains around Tatiana's bed and said she'd let her change in private. Mum folded her little girl's clothes neatly and put them on the bedside chair while Tatiana struggled to put on the hospital gown. It was a weird, thin sheet with sleeves which tied up at the back rather than the front. Feeling shy, Tatiana slid under the covers.

"Have you got Rudi?" she asked.

"Of course," replied Mum. "You can't have an operation without your lucky rat!"



Mum fished Rudi out of the bag of books and games they had bought for Tatiana's stay in hospital. For a soft toy, he was very lifelike. He was even a bit ragged and worse for wear, rather like a real rat. That didn't bother Tatiana, however. She had loved him for years and he went everywhere with her.

Even so, she was worried what the other children on the ward might think. Was it ok for a grown-up girl of six to still have a cuddly toy? She tucked him out of sight, under her pillow, just in case.

The nurse poked her head through the curtains. "All done? Good. The trolley will be here soon to take you down for your operation." This made Tatiana feel a bit wobbly. She turned on her side to look at Mum. Her hand slipped under her pillow and clutched Rudi.

Noticing her watery eyes, Mum held her other hand and smiled. "It'll be over before you know it. I'll be right here when you come back to the ward. Just think, you can start looking forward to not hurting all the time." Tatiana smiled bravely and rubbed her eyes with her hand.

A jolly man appeared along with the nurse and a bed on wheels. Mum and the nurse helped Tatiana onto the bed. Then the nurse picked up Tatiana's pillow.



"Eeeeeek!" screeched the nurse. "It's a r-r-rat." Everyone looked around. There was the nurse, holding Rudi by the tail and grinning broadly. "We don't usually allow rats in the hospital," she smiled, "but I think we can allow it ... just this once. Perhaps he would like to ride along with you. You can help him to be brave."

Lucky Rudi

Set A

Vocabulary

1. Look at the paragraph beginning "The nurse pulled," Find and copy two words that mean *without anyone watching*.

2. ... *worse for wear* ... This means ... Tick one.

badly dressed

in dirty clothes

in a bad state

smelly

3. ... *This made Tatiana feel a bit wobbly* ... This means Tatiana felt ... Tick one.

worried

shaky

hungry

excited

Identify key aspects

4. Why was Tatiana in hospital?

5. Give two things that Mum brought for Tatiana's stay in hospital.

a. _____ b. _____

Inference

6. Why did Tatiana hide Rudi under her pillow?

Sequence

7. Number the parts of the story from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they appear.

Tatiana slid under the covers.	
The nurse closed the curtains around the bed.	
Mum held Tatiana's hand.	
Mum got Rudi out of the bag.	

Predict

8. What do you think the nurse will say if Tatiana ever has to go back for another stay in hospital?

Questions for Lucky Rudi Set B

Vocabulary

1. Look at the first paragraph. **Find** and **copy** a word that means *strange*.

2. ... "Mum fished Rudi out" ... This means that Mum ... **Tick one**.

found Rudi with a net

caught Rudi with a hook

let Rudi slip out of her hands

pulled Rudi out

Identify key aspects

3. Why did Tatiana want Rudi with her in hospital?

4. Who came back with the nurse?

5. Why did the nurse say, "Eeeeeek!"?

Inference

6. How was Tatiana feeling when Mum held her hand? How do you know?

Sequence

7. Number the parts of the story from **1** to **4** to show the order in which they appear.

The nurse held Rudi by the tail.	
The nurse told them the trolley would arrive soon.	
Tatiana put Rudi under her pillow.	
Tatiana changed into her hospital gown.	

Predict

8. What would the nurse say if Tatiana asked whether she was scared of Rudi?

Answers for *Lucky Rudi*

Set A:

Vocabulary:

1. in private
2. in a bad state
3. worried

Retrieval:

4. to have an operation
5. Accept any two from: games, books, Rudi.

Inference:

6. She was worried what people might think about her having a cuddly toy with her.

Sequence:

7.

Tatiana slid under the covers.	2
The nurse closed the curtains around the bed.	1
Mum held Tatiana's hand.	4
Mum got Rudi out of the bag.	3

Predict:

8. Accept answers that refer **either** to recognising Tatiana, e.g. "I'm sorry to see you've had to come back." or "Hello Tatiana, it's nice to see you again." **or** to remembering Rudi, e.g. "Have you brought your rat again?"

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Answers for *Lucky Rudi*

Set B:

Vocabulary:

1. weird
2. pulled Rudi out

Retrieval:

3. Accept any of the following points: Rudi was 'lucky./Tatiana loved Rudi./Rudi went everywhere with her.
4. a jolly man
5. She had found Rudi./She was pretending that she was shocked by or frightened of Rudi.

Inference:

6. Sad or very worried – her eyes were watery which suggests she was crying.

Sequence:

7.

The nurse held Rudi by the tail.	4
The nurse told them the trolley would arrive soon.	3
Tatiana put Rudi under her pillow.	2
Tatiana changed into her hospital gown.	1

Predict:

8. Accept answers that reflect that she was trying to make Tatiana laugh, e.g. "Not really – I was only joking."

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