

A **FREE** RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS!

# Goosebumps™

## Starter Level

This level is suitable for beginner-level students who have been learning English for less than a year. It precedes the Common European Framework level A1. Suitable for users of CLICK magazine.

## SYNOPSIS

Zach and his mum have just moved to the sleepy town of Madison, in Delaware, USA. Zach soon meets Hannah, the girl next door, who is friendly, but her dad doesn't want her and Zach to be friends.

One evening, when Zach hears a scream from Hannah's house, he calls new friend, Champ, and they investigate. The house is scary, and they find a room full of *Goosebumps* books. It turns out that Hannah's dad is the *Goosebumps* writer, R. L. Stine.

Hannah tries to stop the boys opening a book and, to their surprise, a huge Yeti comes out of the book and appears in front of them. Hannah's dad eventually catches the Yeti by opening the book in front of it. The Yeti is pulled back into the book.

Back at the house, another monster has escaped – this time it's the evil dummy, Slappy. Slappy lets all the monsters out of their books to cause trouble in Madison.

Zach suggests writing a new story about the monsters. The plan is to pull all the monsters into the story and save Madison. R.L. Stine's typewriter is at Madison High School so they all head to the school. The monsters invade the school and terrify the students.

Zach helps Stine finish the story and catches all the monsters. They've done it! Or have they? The story ends with the sound of Slappy writing on Stine's typewriter ...

## THE BACK STORY

R. L. Stine began writing at the age of nine after he found an old typewriter in the attic. He says he wasn't a sociable boy and hated playing outdoors. His first job was writing a funny magazine for children called *Banana*, which was published by Scholastic. When the magazine closed after ten years, a Scholastic editor asked him to write a horror story for young teenagers. The first *Goosebumps* story was published in 1992, and Stine went on to write 125 stories in total.

Deciding which of the *Goosebumps* stories to make into a film was tough. Then the scriptwriters decided to use a number of the *Goosebumps* characters in one story, with Slappy as the leader of the monster gang. Slappy is R. L. Stine's favourite baddie, who has appeared in twelve books, three TV programmes, three video games and now one film.

## MEDIA LINKS

**DVD:** The *Goosebumps* film stars Jack Black as R. L. Stine. Black plays Stine as a mean man who hates teenagers, but learns to appreciate them during the film.

**CD:** A recording of *Goosebumps* accompanies the Richmond Reader.

**Websites:** Go to [goosebumps.scholastic.com](http://goosebumps.scholastic.com) to find out more about the film and books. The website [rlstine.com](http://rlstine.com) includes creative writing materials to use with students.

## HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC READER

### Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Have your students heard of the *Goosebumps* stories? Have they seen the film? Read aloud the first page of the story with dramatic atmosphere.

### Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self-Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (All answers are on page 4 of this resource sheet.)

### Using the CD

Ask students to listen to the recording and read at the same time. Some of the action takes place in speech bubbles, so students need to see the images to follow the action.

### Using the DVD

Select the English language option on the DVD. The running time is 103 minutes. Select key scenes to show in parallel with the class reading schedule. Note that the Scholastic reader is a much simplified version of the film.

### Glossary

Go to 'New Words' at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or ask students to find meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a different context.

### Casual language

There are a number of informal expressions used in this story. (See Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet.) Put them into context for students and ask students to look out for them as they read.

### Fact File

Ideas on how to exploit the Fact File for whole class work are given on page 4 of this resource. The Fact File focuses on four types of monster: the Yeti, zombies, werewolves and vampires.

### What did they think?

Ask students to do a written or spoken review of *Goosebumps*. Compare opinions. Would they like to read one of the original novels, either in English or in their own language? Did you like it? Let us know at [elt@scholastic.co.uk](mailto:elt@scholastic.co.uk).

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES



# Goosebumps

**People and places**

Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- a) Zach and his mum *are* / (*aren't*) from Madison.
- b) Madison *is* / *isn't* a big city.
- c) Slappy *is* / *isn't* nice or good.
- d) Champ *goes* / *doesn't go* to Madison High School.
- e) Zach and Hannah *are* / *aren't* sixteen.

**Chapters 1–2**

**1 Match the names to the adjectives. Write sentences.**

Champ   Hannah   Hannah's dad   Zach   Zach's mum

angry   beautiful   not cool   ~~not happy~~   sad

Zach's not happy.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

**2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false sentences in your notebook.**

- a) Zach and Hannah go to the same school.  
 False. Hannah doesn't go to Madison High.....
- b) Zach and Hannah climb up the Ferris wheel but Hannah is scared.  
 .....
- c) Madison is beautiful at night.  
 .....
- d) Hannah and Zach talk about their families.  
 .....
- e) Hannah's dad is friendly to Zach.  
 .....

**3 Work with a partner. Student A: You live in Madison. You like Madison. Student B: You are new in Madison. Ask Student A about Madison.**

**Chapters 3–4**

**1 Put these events in the correct order.**

- a) The Yeti goes back into the book.
- b) Zach hears a scream from Hannah's house.
- c) Zach and Champ go to the ice rink.
- d) Zach phones Champ on his mobile.
- e) Hannah's dad locks the book.
- f) Zach unlocks a book.
- g) Zach and Champ go into Hannah's house.
- h) A Yeti comes out.

**2 Answer these questions.**

- a) Who is sitting in R. L. Stine's chair?  
 Slappy.....
- b) Slappy talks about R. L. Stine's 'children'. Who is he talking about?  
 .....
- c) What do the gnomes do? Write two things.  
 .....
- d) What is burning in the garden? Why is this a problem?  
 .....

**3 Look at the pictures on pages 12–18. Close the book. How many questions can you answer?**

- a) What colour is the Yeti?
- b) Who is in the photo at the ice rink?
- c) Stine says, 'Don't do that!' Who is he talking to?
- d) Slappy has a flower on his jacket. What colour is it?
- e) What colour are the gnome's eyes?
- f) Hannah and her friends see the books. The books are burning. Where are they?

**4 Talk with a partner. You are characters in R.L. Stine books. Slappy opens your book and you come out. What do you do? Where do you go? How do you feel?**

**Chapters 5–6**

**1 Find the mistakes in these sentences. Correct the mistakes.**

- a) The monsters are in ~~Stine's house~~ <sup>the streets</sup>.
- b) R. L. Stine says sorry to Zach.
- c) Champ asks Hannah to the dance.
- d) R.L. Stine finds a pen and starts to write.
- e) The students see the monsters and the students laugh.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES

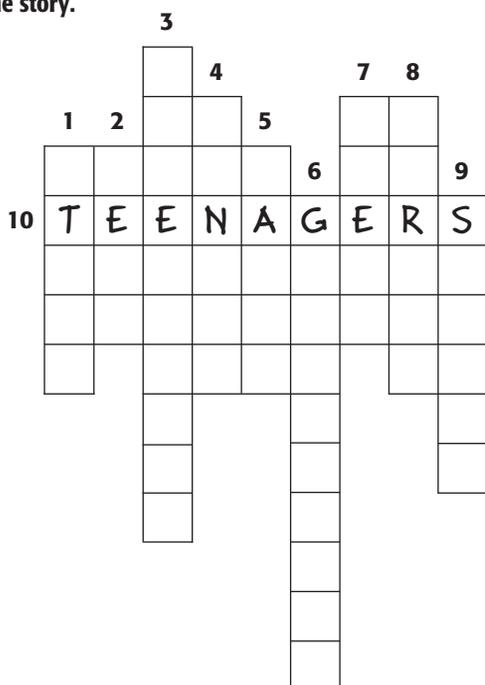
2 Answer the questions. Who ... ?

- a) ... drives the school bus? ..... Hannah
- b) ... eats Stine? .....
- c) ... writes the end of the story? .....
- d) ... is the last monster to go into Zach's book? .....
- e) ... is Zach's new English teacher? .....
- f) ... is a new student at Zach's school? .....

3 Work in pairs. Think of a new monster. What is it? What does it like? Why is it scary? Draw it!

FINAL TASKS

1 Read the sentences and complete the puzzle with words from the story.



- 1.  He is always angry.
- 2.  This is big, white and has very long hair.
- 3.  Hannah's dad writes his stories on this.
- 4.  Zach likes her.
- 5.  Champ wants to go to this.
- 6.  You have these when you're scared.
- 7.  Zach and Hannah go to the Ferris ...
- 8.  People see a monster and they do this!
- 9.  He is a very bad monster.
- 10.  Zach, Hannah and Champ are ...

2 Talk with a partner. Look at the photographs in the book. Choose your favourite. Who is in it? What time of day is it? What is happening? Why do you like it?

3 Choose a character from *Goosebumps* (not Zach). Now choose one chapter in the story. What happens to the character in that chapter? Write his or her diary.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

Look at the 'New Words' at the back of *Goosebumps*. Choose the correct answers. You can use a dictionary.

1. You're in your room. A person **locks** the door. Can you leave?  
a) yes    **b) no**
2. Two of these things can **burn**. Which two things?  
a) water    b) paper    c) a laugh    d) a house
3. What gives you **goosebumps**?  
a) You hear a scream.    b) You do your homework.
4. You don't like **Ferris Wheels**. Why not?  
a) You hate the dark.    b) You hate looking down.
5. You and your friends go to the **ice rink**. What do you think?  
a) It's cold but it's fun.    b) It's hot and it's boring.
6. What do you listen to at a school **dance**?  
a) music    b) your teacher
7. Which of these can you **climb**?  
a) the Mississippi    b) Mount Everest
8. Which of these do you **pull**?  
a) a door    b) a mobile
9. You **shout** at your friend. Why?  
a) She is sitting next to you.  
b) She is in a different room.
10. People don't have **typewriters** today. Why not?  
a) They have computers.    b) They have televisions.

Casual language

Look up the casual language expressions (in bold) in your dictionary or ask your teacher for help.

- Zach says to Champ, '**Ready?** Let's go in!' (p.12).
- Slappy says to Zach and Champ, '**Nice to meet you!**' (p.16).
- Slappy leaves Hannah's dad at the school and says, '**See you later!**' (p.21).
- Stine smiles for the first time, and Zach says. '**Wow!**' (p.24).

Complete the sentences with the Casual language expressions.

1. '..... I love your new shoes!'
2. A: My name's Pierre. I'm a new student at your school.  
B: .....
3. A: I'm going to the shops.  
B: .....
4. '..... Have you got your bag? Jack is waiting for us.'

FACT FILE FOLLOW-UP

**MONSTERS! (pages 26–7)**

**Monster party**

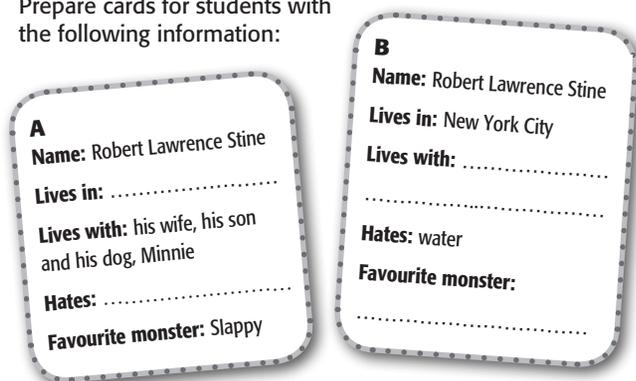
Brainstorm types of monster and places where they live. Write them on the board. Explain that each student is a monster at a monster party, but they mustn't tell anyone who they are. Each student chooses a monster and prepares one or two sentences to introduce themselves at the party. Help them with vocabulary. Students work in pairs or mingle as a group. They take turns to say their sentences and their classmates guess what kind of monster they are. *Example:*

**Student A:** I live in cold places. I have ice cream for breakfast.

**Student B:** You're the Yeti.

**Interview with R. L. Stine**

Prepare cards for students with the following information:



Ask: *Who writes the Goosebumps stories? (R. L. Stine).* Ask students to work in pairs. Give each student card A or B. Students write questions to find out the missing information. They then interview each other and complete the information.

**CREATIVE WRITING**

(Activity adapted from [rlstine.com/for-teachers/](http://rlstine.com/for-teachers/).)

- Stand in one place for ten minutes. What can you see/hear/feel? Write it down.
- Choose a special event that's coming up, like a birthday party, a football match or a sleepover. Before the event: imagine you are at the event. What's it like? Write a description. After the event: Write a new description. What is it actually like? Compare the two descriptions.
- Choose one hour of your life. What happens in that one hour? Write about it.

**DVD/CD FOLLOW-UP**

**DVD: Choosing scenes**

The film *Goosebumps* contains more characters and events than are included in this Starter level graded reader. Watch the film yourself and choose a few key scenes. Students vote for the scenes they would most like to watch.

Plan some observation questions based on the extract. Tell the class to watch the scene closely and pay attention to the details. Ask students your questions. Watch the extract again to check answers.

**CD: What's happening?**

Select a key moment on the CD from a chapter that students have already read. Play the section to students. Ask: *Who is speaking? Where are they? What's happening? How do they feel?*

**ANSWER KEY**

**Self-Study Activities (pages 28–31)**

**Chapters 1–2**

- a) dance b) climb c) jumps d) tall e) scared
- a) Zach b) Hannah c) Slappy d) R. L. Stine e) Champ f) Gale Cooper
- a) They are living there now. b) his mum c) Hannah d) tomorrow e) no
- a) H b) Z c) H d) H e) Z f) H
- Open answers.

**Chapters 3–4**

- a) ice rink b) Yeti c) gnome d) Hannah's house
- a) pull b) Hannah c) Lock d) screaming e) burning f) open
- a) The school dance b) Hannah's dad c) Because it's dark. d) He unlocks it. e) white f) Because it's cold and Yetis come from a cold place. g) Hannah's dad. h) Hannah's dad/He writes the *Goosebumps* stories.
- The correct answers are: a, c, d, e and g.
- Open answers.

**Chapters 5–6**

- a) scared b) writing a book
- Open answers.
- a) There are monsters in the streets and in the shops. b) Zach c) Write a new story about the monsters in Madison. d) At Madison High School e) At the school dance f) They see monsters at the windows.
- The correct order is: c, e, b, d, h, g, a, f.
- Open answers.

**Resource Sheet Activities**

**People and places**

- b) isn't c) isn't d) goes e) are

**Chapters 1–2**

- Hannah is beautiful. Champ is not cool. Zach's mum is sad. Hannah's dad is angry.
- b) F. Zach is scared. c) T d) T e) F. Hannah's dad is not friendly to Zach.
- Open answers.

**Chapters 3–4**

- The correct order is: b, d, g, f, h, c, a and e.
- b) The *Goosebumps* monsters c) Possible answers: They pull Hannah's hair. They jump on Champ's foot. They hit Champ. They jump on Zach's back. d) The *Goosebumps* books. Stine and Hannah can't put the monsters back in the books.
- a) white b) Hannah, Zach, Champ, the Yeti c) Slappy d) red e) red f) in the garden
- Open answers.

**Chapters 5–6**

- b) says doesn't say c) Champ Zach d) a pen his typewriter e) laugh scream
- b) the Blob c) Zach d) Slappy e) R. L. Stine f) Hannah
- Open answers.

**Final tasks**

- Stine 2. Yeti 3. typewriter 4. Hannah 5. dance 6. Goosebumps 7. wheel 8. scream 9. Slappy

**Vocabulary Builder**

2. b and d 3. a 4. b 5. a 6. a 7. b 8. a 9. b 10. a

**Casual language**

- Wow! 2. Nice to meet you! 3. See you later! 4. Ready?