

Ed's Reading Room Word Search

The Battle for Christmas

by Jeremy Strong

U	Q	S	R	U	A	S	O	N	I	D	J	H	E
W	P	E	N	G	U	I	N	S	W	Y	E	Y	Q
M	A	R	Z	I	P	A	N	M	A	N	L	U	H
Y	I	E	U	G	Y	Y	H	O	E	A	L	G	Q
S	U	N	H	U	Q	G	U	T	B	M	Y	W	T
G	W	E	C	Y	I	T	L	I	A	I	B	H	S
N	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	G	T	E	Q	A
I	H	A	L	W	S	T	U	Q	W	E	A	E	M
K	G	S	W	N	H	P	H	E	G	N	N	W	T
C	U	H	I	D	Y	G	I	H	G	A	T	Y	S
O	G	T	A	E	W	L	Y	E	W	U	G	G	I
T	X	Y	E	T	L	A	L	T	S	Q	W	H	R
S	G	A	T	E	H	S	G	G	E	O	U	T	H
Q	S	A	M	A	J	Y	P	C	I	M	S	O	C

Ellie

Max

Christmas

birthday

tinsel

Cosmic Pyjamas

dinosaurs

penguins

mince spies

sleigh

angels

jellybean

dynamite

Marzipan Man

stockings

presents

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Rhyming Slang

Rhyming slang replaces words by rhyming words or phrases, eg **apples and pears** meaning **stairs**. Sometimes the rhyming element is omitted, eg **titfer** shortened from **tit for tat** meaning **hat**.

Write some rhyming slang words or phrases here. Maybe you can create some new ones of your own!

Fact or opinion

Say whether these sentences from **The Battle for Christmas** are fact or opinion.

Having a birthday on Christmas Eve was inconvenient, but Ellie was still managing to have a good time.

Max stood next to her and they both stared at the little picture.

Ellie peeped out at the raging battle ahead of them.

It was like being deep inside the belly of some fantastical beast.

There's nothing like a bit of silly logic to upset bossy people.

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Ed's Poetry

Creating images using the senses is one of the key techniques used by poets. Think about what you can see, hear, smell, touch and taste. Write an acrostic poem inspired by Christmas, using this technique.

Christmas

Christmas candles welcoming our friends,

H

R

I

S

T

M

A

S

When you have finished your poem you could read it to a friend or learn and recite it.

Ed would enjoy reading your poem. You could email your poem to him.

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Write a postcard to a friend saying why you would recommend this book. Talk about the setting and some of the main characters, say what type of book it is and give a short introduction to the story. Remember not to give too much away!

Do an illustration of this story for the front of the postcard in the style of the book. Decide whether to do your illustration in black and white or in colour.