

Title:

Great Expectations

Author:

Charles Dickens



Before Reading

- Read the book description aloud. What impression do you get of Pip?
- Discuss:
 - What does it mean to live without parents?
 - How would it feel to suddenly receive lots of money from someone you don't know?

During Reading

- Pause at key moments and ask:
 - Why is Pip's meeting with the escaped convict so important?
 - How does Pip change when he gains wealth?
 - Do you think Pip realizes there may be a price for the money?

After Reading

Discussion questions

- Who do you think the mysterious benefactor is, and why are they helping Pip?
- What does Pip learn about himself during the story?
- Can money change who you are?

Activities

1. Pip Before and After

- Draw or write about Pip as a poor boy and then as a wealthy young man.
- What is the same and what is different?

2. The Secret Benefactor

- Imagine you had a secret benefactor.
- Write or draw: What would you use the money for? How would you feel?

3. A Diary Entry

- Write a diary entry from Pip on the day he first discovers someone is paying for his new life.
- How does he react? Is he happy, confused, or suspicious?

4. Role Play: A Revelation

- Work in groups. Act out a scene where Pip learns who his secret benefactor is.
- How does he react? What does he say to the person?