

**Entry Level – 3.4 - Activity – Reading Extracts*****Extract 1: Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl***

1) So the order went down to the farms, and that night one hundred and eight men formed a tight ring around the bottom of the hill.

2) They were armed with sticks and guns and hatchets and pistols and all sorts of other horrible weapons.

3) This made it quite impossible for a fox or indeed for any other animal to escape from the hill.

4) The next day, the watching and waiting went on. Boggis, Bunce and Bean sat upon small stools, staring at the fox's hole.

5) They didn't talk much. They just sat there with their guns on their laps.

6) Every so often, Mr Fox would creep a little closer towards the mouth of the tunnel and take a sniff. Then he would creep back in when he realised they were still there.

*Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl (Puffin Books), © The Roald Dahl Story Company Limited

**Extract 2: The Secret Sunshine Project by Benjamin Dean**

1) At our Pride Headquarters – also known as Dawnlight Cottage – it was like the party had already started. Laughter trailed down the garden path to greet us as we arrived, a dozen voices entwined together.

2) When I opened the front door, Emmy, dressed in a light blue summer dress, flew into me for a hug. The rest of the gang was dressed up for the day too – Robin and Noah were even wearing matching rainbow-striped T-shirts, except Noah had also teamed his with bright yellow shorts and pink socks that were different shade entirely, something Robin had chosen to give a miss.

3) Harry had given Smudge a rainbow collar and ribbons on his ears, which just might've been the cutest thing I'd ever seen.

4) Standing in the doorway, we all huddled together and did a weird little hug-dance-jump thing to celebrate.

'We're really doing it!' Emmy cried. 'Like, this is *actually* happening!'

5) 'I'M SO EXCITED!' Harry shouted, running off down the hall with arms out to the sides like an aeroplane.

6) Rue, Travis and Norman were already in the living room, along with Ziggy, who was making a show of flicking his newly dyed purple hair around. They were blowing up even more balloons despite the fact that it now seemed the entire house was actually made of them.

The Secret Sunshine Project by Benjamin Dean, published by Simon & Schuster Children's UK (31 Mar. 2022)

***Extract 3: Johnny and the Dead by Terry Pratchett***

1. Johnny really discovered the cemetery after he'd started living at Grandad's. This was Phase Three of Trying Times, after the shouting, which had been bad, and the Being Sensible About Things (which had been worse; people are better at shouting). Now his dad was getting a new job somewhere on the other side of the country. There was a vague feeling that it might all work out, now that people had stopped trying to be sensible. On the whole, he tried not to think about it.
2. He'd started using the path along the canal instead of going home on the bus, and found that if you climbed over the place where the wall had fallen down, and then went around behind the crematorium, you could cut off half the journey,
3. The graves went right up to the canal's edge.  
It was one of those old cemeteries you got owls and foxes in and sometimes, in the Sunday papers, people going on about Our Victorian Heritage, although they didn't go on about this one because it was the wrong kind of heritage, being too far from London.
4. Wobbler said it was spooky and sometimes went home the long way, but Johnny was disappointed that it wasn't spookier. Once you sort of put out of your mind what it *was* – once you forgot about all the skeletons underground, grinning away in the dark – it was quite friendly. Birds sang. All the traffic sounded a long way off. It was peaceful.
5. He'd had to check a few things, though. Some of the older graves had big stone boxes on top, and in the wilder parts these had cracked and even fallen open. He'd had a look inside, just in case.  
It had been sort of disappointing to find nothing there.
6. And then there were the mausoleums. These were much bigger and had doors in, like little houses. They looked a bit like allotment sheds with extra angels. The angels were generally more life-like than you'd expect, especially one near the entrance who looked as though he'd just remembered that he should have gone to the toilet before he left heaven.

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