Down The Back Of The Chair Transcript

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Okay guys. Now look, I've been reading to you this fabulous book "Down the back of the chair", I think we all enjoyed it, is that right? [Yes].

Great hey? I just love the magical world that she creates.

I love that imaginative world that Margaret Mahy creates.

I - as I said before as well - I just love some of the words she uses.

And she does something beginning with "R" can you remember? She makes..... Oh say it against Stanley?

"Rhymes" - she makes those words rhyme, doesn't she?

"Wow words"

Ooh she uses those "wow words" you're quite right.

So I thought that.... what we might do...

...is actually think about three magical items that we might find if we put our hand down the back of the chair.

And we might have a go at describing them.

What does describe mean again? Ben ?

"It means like it, um, how it smells, how it um looks, like how it tastes."

Ahh - so all the senses you're thinking about. I'm thinking particularly about what it looks like, but you're quite right, you're absolutely right.

So now Murray had a go at it.

I pretended I was down the back of the chair and what three items did I find Billy?

"A Lamborghini!"

A Lamborghini - what else?

"A giraffe."

A giraffe - what else?

"Socks" --- oh and some socks that's right.

I didn't tell you the reason I was pleased I found some socks because when I put my socks on this morning, there was a hole in them, so I needed some new ones!

But I don't know if these socks will be good enough for me, because what are they made of?

"Rubber." Rubber. What color are they?

"Pink"- oh and they're so big they're big enough for a...?

"Giraffe."

Okay so I could give them to the..... oh what about this giraffe over there... there's some special things about him - can you tell me Ollie what's special about him?

"They're purple it is winged and it can talk.

Oh what about that Lamborghini? It's not any old Lamborghini, Daisy?

"It's rainbow colored and it's as slow as a snail."

Oh so it doesn't go fast - it goes as slow as a snail.

All right now guys, I want to actually write about.... I'll start with one of them - which one should I start with?

Should I start with the giraffe [yes] the socks or the Lamborghini [mixed responses]

Hang on, I'm going to ask a couple of people. Ben, what would you start with?

"Lamborghini!"

You'd start with the Lamborghini. What would you start with?

"um the socks."

Oh, what would you start with?

"The giraffe!"

Layla, what would you start?

"Giraffe!"

Ohh - two people have said the giraffe, is it okay if I start with the giraffe? [Yeah]... okay.

Now, just tell me about this giraffe again guys - what color is it?

"Purple."

Oh and um what's special about it? There's two things that are special about it - Bailey?

"It has wings and it's purple...."

Oh and it can talk - ohhh!

Okay - oh and I mustn't forget that when I'm doing my writing. I've got to remember to put a bit of detail into it. What does "W W" stand for again Stanley?

"Wow Words?"

Oh what's that other word that we came up with ?

'Wonderful Words' oh and sometimes you've got to go back to the beginning and you've got to re-read it and you have to ask yourself a couple of questions: what are they?

"Does it make sense, and does it sound right?"

All right. Now look I'm going to start with the giraffe - I can't just write "giraffe purple with wings can talk" - how can I start this off ? Let me have a little think um....

I suppose I could start off with ‘I found’ or ‘I discovered’ or should I start off with "when I put my hand down the back of the chair" - what do you reckon? What do you reckon Bailey?

"In my chair I found..."

Ooh ‘in my chair I f...’. Shall I say 'in my chair' or 'down the back of the chair'?

"Down the back of my chair."

Ooh okay, any other ideas?

"Down the back of the chair I discovered?"

Ooh you like discovered, all right I'll put your idea with your idea then - say it again ‘down the back of the ....’ shall I say 'the chair' or 'my chair'?

"My chair..."

Ooh okay, ‘down the back of my chair, I discovered’ all right - I'll get that down... all right, because they're narrow lines I might write every second one so I can make changes.

"Down - the - back - of..." what did I say? 'My chair', wasn't it?

"Uh huh" ....

"My chair" - oh sorry for my messy writing....

"I discovered..." how the heng am I going to write discovered - anyone got any sounds - what do you reckon Ollie?

"Shall we start it with ‘dis’ ?”

Oh "Dis" - what letters make 'dis' ?

"D I S."

Oh it's a "C" not a "K" - I think you're right. ..... I discovered..... yeah?

"You could write cover?"

Ahhh - how do I write that Billy?

"C O V E R".

All right, "Down the back of my chair, I discovered..."

What am I going to put on the end of ‘discover’ to make it ‘discovered’? What do you reckon?

"E D".

Oh - can you come and do it for me?

Thank you so much.

'Down the back of my chair, I discovered...' - I don't want to just say giraffe - which words of those should I use to describe Giraffe? What do you reckon Quentin?

"I discovered a new giraffe?"

"A purple giraffe?"

Oh I discovered.... oh say it again...?

"I discovered a giraffe with a purple.... uh oh wait - I discovered a giraffe that is purple with wings."

Oh this is - that is purple with wings - thank you so much Bailey. Billy, what are you gonna say?

"I found a giraffe that hasn't been identified by scientists".

Ooh, what a great idea! Can I go with that?

I love that - because we know - there's all the special things about it - all right hang on...

"Down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been.... ?

"Discovered".... "Identified"....

Identified - Ohh right... by scientists! "I - discovered - a...."

[whispering] How am I going to write .... Oh giraffe is up there...

"giraffe - that - hadn't... hadn't, hadn't... I had....

What do I put on the end of had to make it hadn't - Layla ?

"Ed?".

Oh ED ? Hadn't -

"Ent?".

Help her out someone - good go though Layla. Ben?

"Um, the thingy like that".

Come and do it for me? Hadn't... finish it off....

Have a go it doesn't matter....

Oh excellent go - can I underline it? Might come back to it, thank you so much, thank you.

All right "down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been...." finish it off Mr Billy.

"That hadn't been identified."

How the heng am I going to write identified?

"That's a wow word!"

Oh it is a wow word isn't it? What do you reckon?

[sounding] "I", “dent tuh” "T". Identi "eh eh. Identify... "i e" Ahhh

Identified.... all-right.

'Down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists.... [yet]

Now, Murray knows how to write scientists - it starts strangely doesn't it?

"It's S, C..."

Oh it is "C", isn't it.

"S C I E N TISTS".

All right. Read it with me guys?

'Down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists'. Now look, I heard someone use the word "yet". Where am I going to put that into the sentence?

That hadn't "yet been identified" or "hadn't been identified yet"? What do you reckon?

“Hadn't been identified yet?"

Oh you'd put it there Billy? Anyone else got any other ideas, Bailey.

"After the by."

You'd put it after the by or before the by?

"Before the by."

Ah that's after identified isn't it? Yeah - yeah, you're quite right.

"I think after scientists!"

Oh! Can I have a go at your one? 'Down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists yet. What do you reckon Billy?

"I think that's a good idea".

Okay, thank you so much. All right.... take that full stop out.... "yet". Then I can go "it"...

"I don't think we're gonna have enough room..."

I don't think we will..... "it had" - now which one shall I start with? It had [wings?] yeah.

Shall I say it had purple ? Oh that doesn't sound right! It had wings? Or it had.... Oh I wouldn't have "it had" something else.... What do you reckon Ben ?

"It can talk".

All right, but then I'll go back to you -

"We could go ..... it was a winged giraffe?".

Ooh 'it was a winged giraffe' - so rather than just 'it had wings'? Is that alright guys?

"Yeah...."

Thank you Ben, thank you....

"It..." so I crossed the 'had' out... 'It was a winged.....'. How the heck am I gonna write..... wing I'm alright with. What am I going to put on the end of wing?

"E D"

Ohhh... giraffe.....

And do you know what, 'cuz I've run out of room, I'm going to put and dot dot dot dot..... then I can do some more....

Right, read it again with me guys from the top: 'down the back of my chair, I discovered a giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists yet. It was a winged giraffe and.....

Ooh look, I just suddenly thought - somewhere up there I want to get that word purple in... where could I put that word purple in. Yeah what do you reckon? Whereabouts? Can you come and show me?

"I discovered a purple giraffe..."

Oh I could put it in there, is that all right? [Yeahh...]

All right, 'down the back of my chair, I discovered a purple giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists yet'.

Oh I love that. That's more detail isn't it?

'It was a winged giraffe...' - Ooh look I'm going to cross giraffe out because I thought we had giraffe up there. Could you think of another word I could use?

"Animal?" "Mammal?"

I was thinking of one beginning with "creee"...

"Creatures".

Creatures! What do you reckon Ollie? I'll try it....

"There was a word that was in my head, but it's gone!"

It's alright that often happens to me too Ben. All right, last read through guys:

'Down the back of my...' altogether ---- 'down the back of my chair, I discovered a purple giraffe that hadn't been identified by scientists yet. It was a winged creature and..... '

Probably it could talk? Do you reckon? Shall I squeeze it in? Yeah? And then dot, dot, dot....

It could talk..... oops, excuse my messy writing!

Dot, dot, dot because we know we haven't finished. Guys I'm loving that. I think we've done really, really well and Billy I love your idea at the beginning, because that was something I hadn't thought of at all - so that's what happens when you write hey? When you write together you think of ideas that you think 'of course, that's neat'.

All right guys now look at that last thing. Oh we've got a word underlined.... who had a go at "hadn't" for me? You did really, really well....

Now look, you did really, really well and I love the fact that you got that apostrophe in there.... and I think the "N T" there is really needed, 'cuz it stands for not.

Are there any changes we need to make? What do you reckon Stanley?

"You take away the ‘E’ ?"

Ooh can you do that for me then buddy? Take away the E.

Thank you so much. Now is there anything else or other changes we need to make to it Ollie?

"Cross the apostrophe out!"

Ahh that's that one there - because why?

"Um you cross the apostrophe out and put the N in there, the apostrophe and then the T."

Oh - can I have a go? So what we do, we take that one out and the NT but we put the apostrophe between the N and the T... why? What letters did we leave out?

"Because the "O" isn't needed...."

Ohhh 'Had Not' - you're quite right, quite right.....

Last thing guys, have we got any detail in it Layla? [Yessss]
Layla, have we ?

"Yes."

Right, can you tell me some detail we've got in it?

I reckon there's some in that line. What's the detail we've got ? What do you reckon Layla?

"Purple?"

Oh we didn't just say giraffe, we said a purple giraffe.

Oh do we have any wonderful words, what are our best words?

"Identified..."

Ohhh any others?

"Discovered!"

Ahhhh and I reckon even 'find' is a word.... and I love winged and I even love creatures.... Ohhh huge tick there [yes].

Hey did we go back and did we re-read it each ? [yeah]

Fabulous!

Guys, I'm going to get you guys now, to actually describe a magical item that you found down the back of the chair! All right, thank you.

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