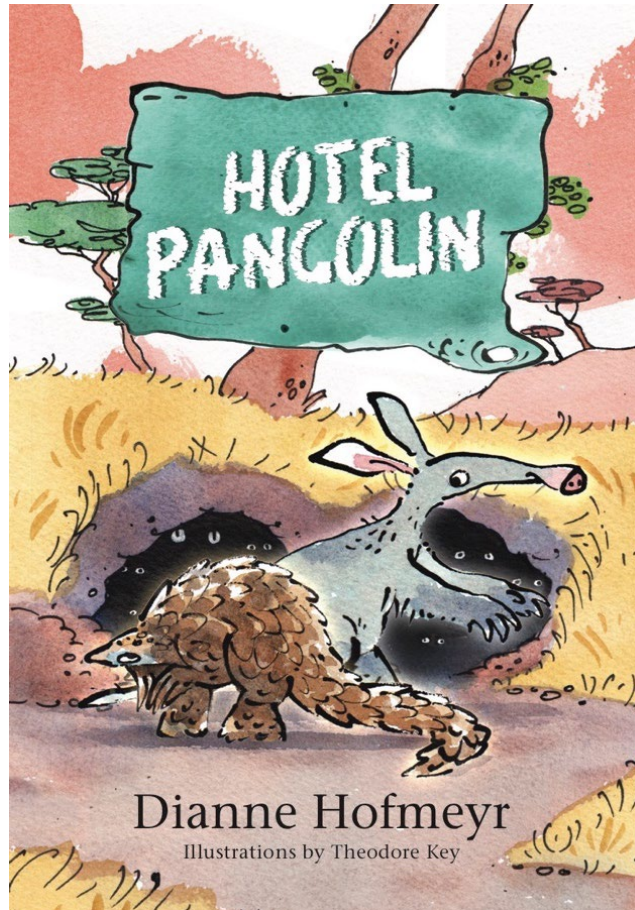


TEACHER & CLASSROOM RESOURCE

Have fun with...



1. What clues does the cover give you?

- Can you name the two animals on the cover?
- What are the dark holes they are standing in front of?
- What else do you see inside the dark holes?
- Do you think this story takes place in the middle of the day or at sunrise, or maybe even sunset? Why?
- Are these two animals mostly active during the day or mostly during the night (nocturnal)?
- What is nailed to the tree and why do you think it says what it says?
- What do you think the story might be about?
- What do the two names at the bottom of the cover tell us?

2. Pangolin says he has scales. Aardvark thinks he might be a fish.

- Name some other animals or creatures that have scales.
- Maybe you can make a list and even draw an animal with scales.
- Pangolin also says he is a mammal. Explain, or research what a mammal is.
- Make a list of a few mammals you know.
- Apart from sharp scales that protect them and help them dig, what else do pangolins have that help them dig for their food.
- Do pangolins have teeth?

3. Pangolin and Aardvark look for food.

This illustration shows the place they find food. What are they crouching next to? What are they looking for? How do they catch their food? When do they hunt for their food? By day or by night? How do we know from this drawing?

In the beginning of the story, is Pangolin happy to share his food with Aardvark? Can you give some reasons for your answer?



4. Aardvark tells a story and says “when pigs could fly” ...



- What does this mean?
- Could pigs ever fly?
- Why do you think Aardvark says it?
- Does this expression tell us anything about Aardvark’s imagination?
- Does Pangolin have much imagination?

5. They visit a baobab tree.



- What animals or birds might live in the branches of a baobab tree?
- Find out why elephants like baobab trees.
- Why do nectar-eating bats like baobab trees?
- Do you know another name for a baobab tree?
- What is special about a baobab tree that makes it different to any other tree? (hint - something to do with its age and size)

6. Some animals live in holes in the ground.



- Make a list of animals mentioned in the story that live in holes underground. Can you think of any others that aren't mentioned in the story? Add them to your list.
- What is the name for a hole where a crocodile lives?
- What is the name for a hole where a hyena lives?
- What is the name for a hole where a warthog lives?

7. The characters of Aardvark and Pangolin.

- Make a list of 5 words that describe what Pangolin is like in this story. (hint: grumpy)
- Make a list of 5 words that describe what Aardvark is like.
- What animal was described as “prickly”?
- What animal was described as “smelly”?
- What animal did Pangolin call “silly”?
- All these words are called “describing” words. Give another word we can use for a “describing” word.
- At the end of the story, has Pangolin’s character changed? How has he changed?

8. Aardvark looks up into the branches of a tree.

If you lie on your back under a tree and look up, the branches of the tree look very different to when you are standing. Here is a painting of looking up into a tree at night, by a famous artist called Georgia O’Keefe.



Here is a photograph looking up into a baobab tree.



Imagine you are lying under a tree looking up at the sky through the branches. Allow your eyes, your ears and even your nose to be part of the experience. Is it day or night? Can you see starlight or sunshine shining through the leaves? What else do you see? What do you hear? Are there bees? Are there birds? What do you smell? Is it hot or cool? Do the branches make patterns? Are the leaves dark or bright green above you? Can you see a bird there or any other creature? Is it quiet or making a sound?

Now write a few sentences about looking up into your tree.

Perhaps even draw your tree with coloured crayons or make a collage with paper of your tree against a blue background. Perhaps your tree is against the stars... perhaps against the sunlight. Maybe draw the creature or bird you saw in your tree. Give your tree a name. It can be a name you make up.

9. The Fire.

When it gets too hot in the wild, sometimes fires start by the sun reflecting on a piece of glass, or else they might start if someone drops a cigarette or a match.

Read the Chapter about the fire again... it's called HOTEL PANGOLIN.



- Why do think this chapter is called Hotel Pangolin?
- There are lots of “action” words in this chapter. Words for actions are called verbs. Can you write down at least 10 verbs from this chapter (hint: sometimes action words end in “ing” because the action is still happening, and sometimes they end in “ed” because it has already happened.)
- Think about the fire racing through the dry grass. If you were there, what would you smell?
What would you see?
What would you hear?
- Write down some words that would help you write about a fire. They can be “describing” words or “action” words. After you have your words, write a few sentences about a fire.

10. The Gifts

The story ends with all the animals leaving secret gifts for Pangolin and Aardvark.

Every animal leaves a gift that is perhaps precious to them but that they also believe Pangolin and Aardvark will enjoy.

The gifts weren't bought with money, but they needed some thought and time. I think of these gifts as "offerings" because they are extra special and seem to come with a wish. Why do you think the animals left them? Why do people give gifts? Do you think people give gifts that we ourselves like, but hope the person receiving the gift will like as well?

If you were going to leave an offering or a gift for Pangolin and Aardvark, what would you leave? A special charm? A lucky stone? A necklace of claws? Maybe you can draw your offering.

11. The Ending

Think about the words you used to describe Pangolin in Section 7. How did Pangolin change by the end of the story?

Would you have ended the story in another way?

If you had to write just one sentence... what do you think the story is about?

12. Pangolins are Endangered.

- What does "endangered" mean?
- Find out why Pangolins are endangered.
(hint: There is some information at the end of the story that might help you. Maybe you can even find out more from books in the library or from some information online.)
- Do you know what the Red List is?
- Which animals or birds apart from dinosaurs, have disappeared from the earth?
- How can you help save pangolins from disappearing from the earth?



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