**Petey**

**by Paul Shipton**

**Comprehension Activities**

Chapter 1 - It’s me - Sophie

1. How do you know that this story is set now or in the future (science fiction story)? Give reasons.
2. What part of a second is a micro second?
3. What made Sophie’s house door open to allow her to enter?
4. What did Sophie learn in ancient history? What did she think about that?
5. Describe what the Ultra Reality machine does.
6. What was mum’s favourite programme?
7. What made the clanking noises from the kitchen?
8. What was Petey?
9. How did Petey get his name?
10. What did Petey have instead of a brain?
11. What did Sophie think of Petey?
12. What made Sam so unhappy?
13. What did Petey give to Sam to eat? What thoughts did Sam have after this?

Follow Up Task

\* Scan read through your book and note all the words that tell us the story is set in the future. e.g. hover-bus.

Chapter 2 - What’s Going on?

1. What did Sophie think was weird that children did in 1996?
2. Do you think you would prefer a Vid-teacher to teach you rather than a human? Provide reasons for your opinions.
3. Why did Sophie think there was something serious had happened when Sam entered her bedroom and what was Sam worried about?
4. When Sophie and Sam opened the cupboard door what was unusual about Petey?
5. Describe what Petey tells Sophie and Sam he wants to do.
6. On page 21 what does Petey tell the children he has began to write?
7. State how you feel about Petey’s poem and give reasons.
8. When Sophie looked inside Petey what did she find? Why were the children so amazed?

Follow Up Task

\*With a partner make up a quiz about the future, eg How will people eat in the future? How will they travel?

Chapter 3 - ‘There’s something wrong with him’

1. What did Petey show the children in the morning?
2. What did the children dress Petey in?
3. Was Petey’s jokes good?
4. What good idea did Petey have on page 33?
5. Why did Sophie agree not to tell anyone for a few days, about how Petey had changed?
6. Why did Mum think there was something wrong with Petey?

Follow Up Task

\*Read through your book and write a list of as many verbs as you can.

\* Go on the following website and find out about a real live robot:

http://world.honda.com/ASIMO

Chapter 4 - Escape!

1. Why were the children and Petey suddenly so worried?
2. What was Sam’s idea for Petey to escape?
3. Describe what the skies were like to fly in.
4. What happened to Sophie’s jet-pack?

Follow Up Task

\*Make a list of things you would use to write your own story set in the future, e.g. different clothes, houses, schools, food transport.

Now use your ideas to write descriptive sentences, eg clothes called thermostats keep people warm or cool, so no heating is needed.

Chapter 5 - Our friend Petey

1. Where did the children and Petey manage to hide?
2. What distracted the Corrections Squad finding Petey?
3. Why did Sam end up in danger?
4. How was Sam rescued and by whom?
5. How did Sam thank Petey?
6. Who eventually took the children and Petey home?

Follow Up Task

\*Use your descriptive sentences and write your own story set in the future.

Chapter 6

1. When the parents were negative about Petey’s new personality, how did Sophie react?
2. How did Mum feel after asking Petey about why he saved Sam?
3. What did Sophie say to her parents when she compared her relationship with Petey to the relationship she had with them?

What did this make Dad do with Ultra Reality Machine?

4. What ‘big change’ did Petey bring about in this family?

Some Years Later

1. How were robots eventually designed and what effect did that have on what jobs they did?
2. Where did Petey end up?
3. What happened to the mouse that was once in Petey’s chest?

Follow Up Task

\*Write a summary of this book and write about parts that you liked or disliked, things that you found interesting etc.