**Tales from Weird Street**

**by Anne Fine**

This book consists of 3 short stories- each story will probably take you 2 sessions to work through.

Predicting

Before reading your book, look at the front cover, the pictures throughout your book, read the blurb on the back and scan read through your book. Then discuss with your group and teacher what you think this book is going to be about. Discuss how the street is called ‘Weird Street’ in the book.

Tale 1 - The Family Photograph

Pages 5-11

1. What sad thing had happened to Gramps?
2. Why did Gramp say that lots of people didn’t have cars years ago?
3. Why did Gramp’s mother want a photo of all her family together?
4. Describe how taking photos now is so different now compared to lots of years ago.
5. List what family Gramps had as a boy.

Follow Up Task

\*Using ICT go onto the following website and read lots of facts about the history of cars and then choose 5 facts you think are important and copy them into your jotter.

http://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/cars.html

Pages 12-20

1. What was very strange about the photos that Gramp had taken of his family?
2. What lie did Gramp tell his mother and why?
3. Why did George Henry run off ?
4. What gave Gramp a warning that his brother was in danger?
5. What happened to George Henry ?
6. How do you think (your opinion) Gramp must have felt keeping that lie secret for years?

Follow Up Task

* Using ICT go onto the following website and read lots of facts about the history of cameras and then choose 5 facts you think are important and copy them into your jotter.

http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/photography/historyofcameras.html

Tale 2 - The Fortune Cookie

Pages 23-28

1. What is Huan good at?
2. Why does Huan hate working in the kitchen?
3. What are the busy times in the restaurant and why?
4. List some of the things that the group of 7 men did that were rude.
5. How does the author infer(hint) that these men are trouble?

Follow Up Task

Visualisation

\*Visualise(picture in your head) what the Peach Garden Restaurant looks like and draw a picture of it and use adjectives(describing words) to describe your drawing.

Pages 29-34

1. Why was one of the men saying that the ‘Peach Garden restaurant’ wasn’t a real Chinese restaurant?
2. What racist thing did this man do when he saw that nobody was bothering about him? (**Racism** is a belief that one race is better to the other or the practice of treating a person or group of people differently on the basis of their race.)
3. What were some of the ‘fortunes’ the men were predicted in their fortune cookies?
4. What was different about the rude man’s fortune cookie?
5. What happened to the man and why do you think it happened?
6. Do you think Mrs. Chang had anything to do with what happened? Give reasons.

Follow Up Task

Questioning:-

\*Think of 5 questions you would like to ask Mrs. Chang and write the questions in your jotter. Then swap with a partner and see if you can answer each other’s questions as if you are Mrs. Chang.

Tale 3 - The Dream House - Pages 39- 48

1. Describe Macie’s dream.
2. What lucky thing does Macie find in her dream?
3. List the horrible things that have happened to Macie’s family.
4. What are Macie’s jobs in the shop?
5. How does the author infer (hint) that Macie’s family are struggling for money?
6. What strange thing happened to Macie’s mum when she put in a ladie’s lottery number into the machine?

Follow Up Task

\*Complete the Describing Houses worksheet.

Tale 3 - The Dream House - pages 49- 58

1. What amazing thing happened to Macie’s family?
2. What did Macie’s family do with the money they won from the lottery?
3. Who did Macie recognise from the picture hung in the ‘haunted house’?
4. What do you think of the unusual events that happened to Macie in the house they were looking at?

Follow Up Task

\*Visualise(think of a picture in your head)what you think Macie’s dream house looks like. Then half a sheet of paper and draw what you think Macie’s dream house looks like. Then on the other half of the paper draw your own idea of a dream house; use adjectives to describe it.

(Remember to use the language from your describing house worksheet to help you with this task.)