

WACKY FAMILIES

My Uncle Wal the Werewolf

Jackie French

Illustrations
Stephen Michael King

before reading

1 **Look** at the picture on the front cover of the book. **Decide** if these sentences are True (T) or False (F).

The boy (Buster) is wearing normal clothes.

Uncle Wal is wearing normal clothes.

The two wolves are very old.

The girl (Prunella) is totally scared.

Everyone except Prunella has fangs.

It's a horror story.

2 **Categorise** these words from the story. **Look up** the words you don't know in a dictionary.

sniff belly leader poo smell
crunch pee change flea

Words about wolves, people and things	Words about actions	Words I don't know

3 **Match** the sounds a werewolf makes with how it is feeling.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| When a werewolf sniffs... | ...it is sad or frightened. |
| When a werewolf howls... | ...it is angry. |
| When a werewolf whimpers... | ...it is shouting. |
| When a werewolf barks... | ...it is hungry. |
| When a werewolf growls... | ...it is happy; singing to the moon. |



4 Buster and his family of werewolves come from Australia. **Unjumble** the underlined countries to find out where these werewolves come from.

The Jé-rouge comes from iaitH. _____

The Mai-cob comes from the Navajo in orhtN creamiA. _____

The Loup-garou comes from dnaaaC. _____

The Vulkodlak comes from braieS. _____

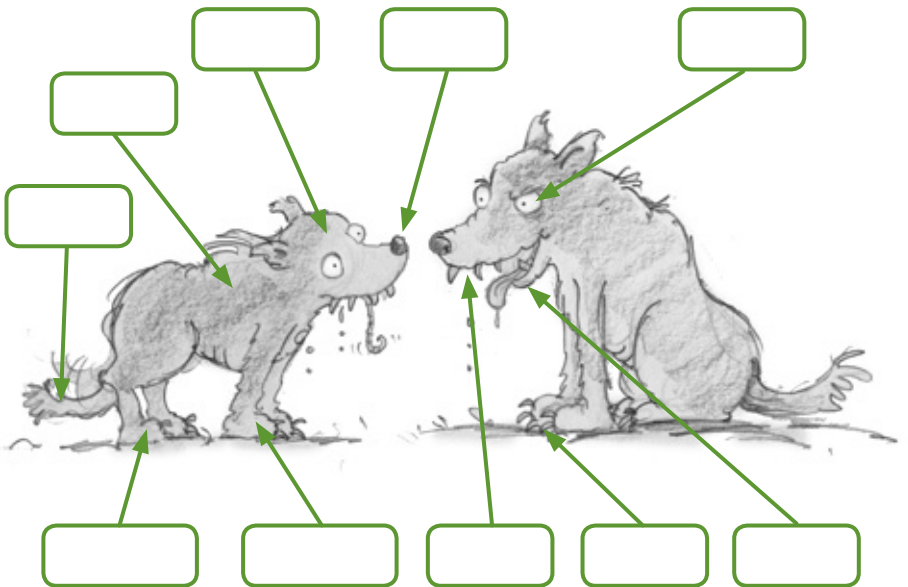
The Kurt adam comes from Trueky. _____

The Kveldulf comes from oraywN. _____

- 5 Prunella is a red-haired detective who helps Buster in the story. **Make a list** of all the famous detectives you know from books and films.



- 6 Label all the parts of a wolf's body you know the words for!



7 Find these 15 Australian animals.

kangaroo

dingo

wombat

green tree frog

platypus

koala

quoll

crocodile

shark

echidna

emu

sugar glider

bandicoot

dugong

cassowary



during reading

Chapters 1 to 4

- 1 **Complete** the sentences about what Buster and Uncle Wal want.

Buster wants to eat _____.

Buster wants to look for _____.

Uncle Wal wants Buster to eat _____

_____.

Uncle Wal wants Buster to look like _____.

Buster wants to pee _____.

Uncle Wal wants Buster to pee _____.

Uncle Wal wants Buster to put on _____.

Uncle Wal wants the wolf pack to live _____.

- 2 **Choose** the correctly spelled words to describe Buster's problem.

Buster's mum and dad have disapeared / disappeared. Were they caught / court in a trap? But why couldn't / coudn't Uncle Wal smell them? Uncle Wal was the best tracker / trekker in the pack. Maybe ayliens / aliens captured them. Buster tought / thought hard. Being a wolf was good for sniffing and running and learning / learnning about the world with your nose. But humans were better at thinking. It would be great to be a detective / defective - but he wasn't - he was a werewolf.



- 3 Uncle Flea doesn't want to eat with a spoon and says, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." **Fill** in the expressions with the correct animals. Then, **match** the expressions with their meanings.

cat flies dog fish birds horse mice

"You can't teach an old _____ new tricks" means _____

"Don't put the cart before the _____" means _____

"Curiosity killed the _____" means _____

"There are plenty more _____ in the sea" means _____

"_____ of a feather flock together" means _____

"When the cat's away, the _____ will play" means _____

"A closed mouth catches no _____" means _____

- It's difficult to change someone who has been doing the same thing for many years.
- Learn to keep silent at the right moment.
- In the absence of a person of power, people will break the rules.
- Do things at the right time and in the right order.
- You will find another person to fall in love with.
- People with similar interests will enjoy each other's company.
- If you are too inquisitive about other people's business, you may get into trouble.

- 4 **Draw** a map of Buster's journey into town.



Chapters 5 to 8

- 1 **Read** the sentences about Prunella and Buster and **tick** the correct box.

	Yes	No
Buster confessed that he was a dog.		
Prunella was terrified when Buster told her the truth.		
Prunella wanted Buster to Change into a human.		
Prunella went green when she saw Buster as a boy.		
Prunella wanted Buster to Change back into a wolf again.		
Prunella was worried about her mum seeing Buster as a boy.		

- 2 **Unjumble** the letters to find the objects in Prunella's office.

PRATCE _____

PUC FO PNSE _____

SKED _____

CEIM _____

LOD PPEARS _____

CHISMATRS CSARD _____

BHDIARTY ARCDS _____

CRUETMOP _____

LEPI FO BKOOS _____

BIDCRAGE _____

AGBS NDA BEOXS _____

BLYCCIE _____

- 3 **List** the differences between Buster's mum and dad and Prunella's mum and dad.

Buster's mum _____

Buster's dad _____

Prunella's mum _____

Prunella's dad _____

- 4 **Use** the words in the box to **complete** the description of what wolves (and dogs) are like.

pee scratch sniff bark trot know smell

Dogs and wolves _____ each other's bums to get to know each other.

Dogs and wolves can _____ what people are thinking.

If a dog or a wolf has fleas, it will _____ itself.

If a dog or a wolf is angry, it will _____.

If a dog is house-trained, it won't _____ on the carpet.

Dogs and wolves can walk, _____ and run fast.

Dogs and wolves have a sixth sense and _____ things they can't explain.

Chapters 9 to 12

1 Remember who says these things.

“No dogs,” said the _____.

“I’m eating a hamburger,” said _____.

“Help! Help! A naked boy!” shouted the _____.

“They call this Werewolf Mountain because those rocks look exactly like the faces of wolves,” said the _____.

“Stop the taxi!” _____ shouted.

“But the client always pays!” protested _____.

2 Choose the correct endings to the sentences about Auntie Paws.

The taxi driver thought...

- a. Auntie Paws was a wolf.
- b. Auntie Paws was Irish.
- c. Auntie Paws was a big dog.

When Auntie Paws paid the taxi driver she was...

- a. very calm.
- b. very surprised.
- c. very angry.

Auntie Paws thinks The Tower smells...

- a. horrible.
- b. wonderful.
- c. old.

Auntie Paws wears human clothes because...

- a. they cover her naked human body.
- b. she loves human fashion.
- c. she likes sport and dancing.

Auntie Paws...

- a. doesn’t eat any human food.
- b. likes all human food.
- c. likes some human food.



- 3 **Add** the missing prepositions to the route everyone takes to find Uncle Wal.

under across out at over through down

Buster, Prunella, Auntie Paws and Uncle Flea went _____ the mountain and _____ the trees. They turned left _____ the crossroads, and right and left again. They went through the town and _____ the other side, till they saw Uncle Wal's car _____ a tree. Then they followed his smell _____ the field and _____ the hill.



- 4 **Mark** the strong syllable in these words.

e.g. factory

impossible

laboratory

concentrate

understand

building

werewolves

Prunella

mysteries

Chapters 13 to 15

1 Find the opposites of these words in this chapter.

hate _____	hard _____
small _____	old _____
bravely _____	boring _____
friendly _____	guiltily _____
horrible _____	thin _____
horribly _____	better _____
less _____	calmly _____
plain _____	visible _____

2 Who was teaching what to who? Choose the right words from the box to complete the sentences.

clothes school bum sniffing and tracking
howl sixth sense fashion

Buster was teaching Prunella how to _____.

Prunella was teaching Buster about _____.

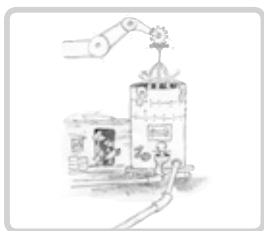
Prunella was teaching Mum and Auntie Paws about _____.

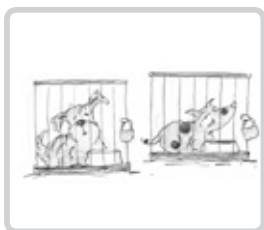
Prunella was teaching Dad, Uncle Flea and Uncle Wal about what _____ to wear.

Buster, Mum, Dad, Auntie Paws, Uncle Flea and Uncle Wal were teaching Prunella about _____.

Buster was going to teach Prunella about a werewolf's _____.

3 **Explain** what these pictures from chapter 14 show.













after reading

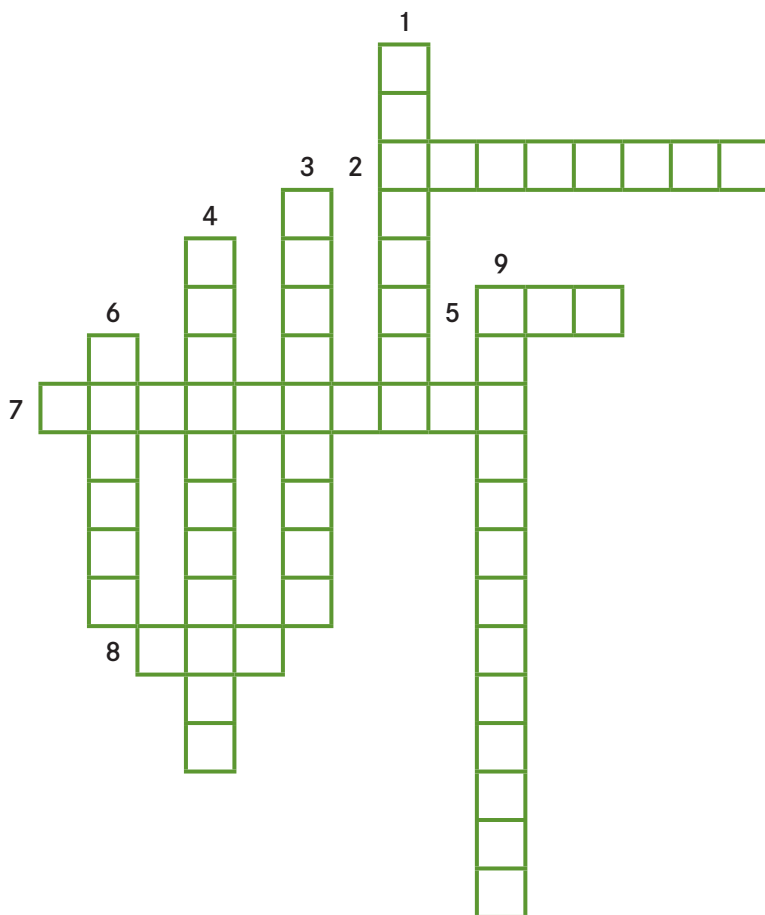
- 1 **Read** these descriptions and complete the crossword - the answers are names.

Across

2. An animal that likes to drive cars
5. A woman wearing the scientist's dress but no shoes
7. An old lady who hates peanut butter
8. The leader of the pack

Down

1. A red-headed detective
3. An old werewolf who doesn't want to learn new tricks
4. A man who likes fish paste sandwiches
6. Half-boy half-werewolf
9. An immoral scientist



2 **Correct** the mistakes and rewrite the text.

Prunella says the pack must learn to be humans, so Buster and the werewolf pack are going to live in the country. Buster will have to get a job, but Prunella will help him.

Buster and his family all hate Prunella and have started fighting with her.

3 **Match** these words from the story with their definitions.

Freckles	A baby dog, like Buster when he was little.
Pack	Small insect that lives in animals' hair and bites. Uncle Flea has lots of them.
Bum	A fruit eaten dry, a dried plum. Buster makes a joke about Prunella's name.
Prune	Bottom: Wolves and dogs like to sniff them.
Puppy	A group or band of criminals, wolves or werewolves, like Buster's family.
Flea	Very small brown spots on your face and body, like red-headed Prunella has.

4 **Add** speech bubbles to these pictures. What do you think they are saying?

