



NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

'Library should be schools' treasure chamber'

KEYWORDS

- Beloved:** Well loved
- Literary:**
To do with writing
- Seam:** Where the gold is in a mine
- Inheritance:**
What the past leaves to the future



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Reading isn't just great fun. Scientists have found that the more people read for pleasure, the better they are likely to do at school. One study even found that readers tend to live about two years longer than non-readers.

Three of Britain's most **beloved** children's authors have called for every school to have a library.

His borrowed materials

When Philip Pullman was at school, the library was where he went to find his dreams. These dreams helped him to write his classic fantasy series, *His Dark Materials*.

But now, he says, school libraries are under threat. So he's teaming up with other **literary** greats,

including Michael Morpugo, and the *Gruffalo* author Julia Donaldson. Together they're spreading the word about what libraries can do for you.

They want to pass a law to ensure that every school has a library.

Libraries shelved

Sadly, the number of school libraries fell last year. More than one in six primary schools don't have a library at all!

One survey last year found that more than

half of children said that they did not enjoy reading for pleasure.

Buried treasure

Pullman spoke passionately about the need for schools to protect "the most important room in the entire school".

"The library should be the heart, the soul, the mind, the source, the spring, the gold-bearing **seam**, the engine room, the treasure chamber, the priceless **inheritance**, the joy and the pride of the school. Every school."



INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

DO WE NEED NEW LAWS TO SAVE THE LIBRARIES?

WHAT
has brought the
three authors
together?

WHO
is the creator
of the Gruffalo

WHERE
did Philip
Pullman find
his dreams?

WHEN
was the survey
into reading
for pleasure
conducted?

WHY
are they starting
this campaign
now?

HOW
many primary
schools don't
have libraries?

1 CHECK YOUR FACTS

Make sure you have all the facts before you start your investigation. Can you answer these questions?

2 KNOW YOUR KEYWORDS

Can you remember what these keywords mean? Match the word to the correct meaning.

1=D

2=

3=

4=

1. Beloved

2. Literary

3. Seam

4. Inheritance

A. To do with writing

B. Where the gold is in a mine

C. What the past leaves to the future

D. Well loved

3 LOOK AT ALL SIDES

There's always more than one side to every story. How might the people involved feel about the story?



Authors



School librarians



Children who hate reading



Children who love reading



Happy



Sad



Calm



Excited



Surprised



Angry



Scared



Bored



Disgusted



Confused

4 DISCUSS THE QUESTION

Do we need new laws to save the libraries?

What do you think? Use the speaking prompts here to help you get started.

I disagree with...

I agree with...

I'm not sure about...

I'd like to know more about...

I think that...

I don't think that...



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5 REPORT BACK

Write, present or record a report that communicates your view. Share this with your class, family and friends. What's their opinion?