

Practise

Read this short extract from *Cyril and Pat* and then try the activity below.

Lake Park only had one Squirrel,

All alone and sad (poor Cyril).

Until the morning he met Pat,

His new best friend, a big grey...

SQUIRREL!

Just like ME!

Pat and Cyril spend each day

Thinking up good games to play.

They liked to put on puppet shows,

And test how fast a skateboard goes.

Their favourite games were Hide-and-seek,

And one that they called Pigeon Sneak.

BOO!

1. What type of animal is Squirrel?
2. Where does he live?
3. How is he feeling at the beginning of this text?
4. Who does he meet?
5. Write two things they enjoy doing together.

Now read this short extract from *Cyril and Pat* and try the activity below.

Cyril ran, out of the park

Into the city, into the dark.

All alone and scared. Poor Cyril.

'Not quite alone, you stupid squirrel.'

'And not so brave without that rat.'

'Ahem. Do you mean ME?' said Pat.

Lake Park still only has one squirrel-

But he is not alone. Now Cyril

Lives there with a large grey rat,

His brave and clever best friend, Pat.

In the extract you have just read, Cyril the squirrel is feeling very scared because Slim the dog has caught him. But, just in time, Pat the rat comes to the rescue.

Read the first part of the extract again and answer the questions below.

Not quite alone, you stupid squirrel.

And not so brave without that rat.

'Ahem. Do you mean ME?' said Pat.

1. Why do you think Pat says 'Ahem'?
2. How would you read this word?
3. Think about what you could say or do instead? You could cough, or you could say 'Excuse me'. What else could you say?
4. Imagine how Pat is standing when he says 'Ahem. Do you mean ME?'. Think about how he will stand – his arms and legs. Try to stand like Pat. Think about Pat's facial expression, try to change your eyes and mouth to match Pat's mood.
5. Now put all three together and say "Ahem. Do you mean ME?" as Pat.