

HORROR STORIES

Do you like scary stories? Are you more into vampire stories or ghost stories? Perhaps comic horror or supernatural fiction? The horror genre in literature includes various subgenres which means that everyone can find a scary story to their liking.

1 What's the perfect scary book like?

- a Why do we read horror stories? Why do we like to get scared?
- b Can a horror story be funny?
- c Vampires, witches, ghosts and zombies. Have you read any famous books about these creatures?
- d Think about characters from horror stories. Why do we fear them?
- e Describe the most evil character you have read about.

2 Different kinds of fear

- a Find out about different kinds of phobias and share them with others. Which is the strangest one?
- b Find out about psychological horror stories. What makes them creepy?
- c Choose a subgenre of horror literature and find out what makes it frightening.
 - Gothic stories
 - Vampire stories
 - Ghost stories
 - Supernatural stories
 - Dark fantasy
- d Use your dictionary to find synonyms of 'fear' and 'being scared'. Note any sayings given.
- e Is it more frightening to watch a horror film or to read a horror story?

3 Think about the setting of a scary novel. How does the author describe the setting? What makes it mysterious or chilling?

Use the [Setting Expert Role Card](#) worksheet from our [Book Club Starter Kit](#) to explore cultural themes in the novel and in your own school.

- a Where is the novel set?
- b What words and phrases does the author use to describe the setting?
- c Why is the setting important? Does it have a special significance in the story?

4 Look at other titles under the keyword **HORROR** on this website.

- a Have you read any of them?
- b What can you tell about the books from their titles and covers?
- c Which one would you like to read?