Improving Your Reading with Inference Iggy:
The Journey Home



"Oh, how red your nose is!" cried little Mabel Blake one day, as her younger brother Hal came running out of the school yard where he had been playing with some other boys. Mabel had picked him up from school, just as she had promised.

"Your nose is red, too, Mab!" Harry said. "It's as red as some of the crabs we boiled at our seashore cottage this summer."

"Is my nose red?" Mabel asked some of her friends.

"It is!" replied Jennie Bruce. "All our noses are red!" she went on. "It's the cold that makes them red. I can tell that it will be a winter with lots of snow and ice!"



"Come on, Hal!" called Mab. "Let's hurry home before it gets any colder!"

"Let's run!" suggested Hal. "When you run you get warm and you don't mind the cold."

"What makes us get warm when we run?" his sister asked, as she took hold of his hand and raced along beside him.

"I don't know," Hal answered. "We'll ask Daddy when we get home. He can tell us everything."

1. The children's noses were red because... Tick **one.**

- ☐ they had been using face paint.
- ☐ they had make up on.
- ☐ the weather was cold.
- ☐ they were bleeding.

2. Give two facts from the text which imply that Mabel is older than Hal.

1. _____

2. _____

3. Why does Jennie Bruce think that the winter will have lots of snow and ice?

4. Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are true and which are false. One has been done for you.

The text implies that...	True	False
Hal had friends at school.	✓	
Jennie Bruce was a friend of Hal's.		
They ran home because they wanted to have a race.		
Mabel tried to look after Hal.		
Mabel and Hal lived with their father.		



Answers

1. The children's noses were red because... Tick **one.**

   - [ ] they had been using face paint.
   - [ ] they had make up on.
   - [x] **the weather was cold.**
   - [ ] they were bleeding.

2. Give two facts from the text which imply that Mabel is older than Hal.
   Accept any two of the following answers: Hal is described as her younger brother; She was picking him up from school; She took hold of his hand.

3. Why does Jennie Bruce think that the winter will have lots of snow and ice?
   Pupils' own responses, such as: Jennie thinks this because they are already so cold and it isn't yet winter so she predicts that winter will be even colder.

4. Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are true and which are false.
   One has been done for you.

The text implies that...	True	False
Hal had friends at school.	✓	
Jennie Bruce was a friend of Hal's.		✓
They ran home because they wanted to have a race.		✓
Mabel tried to look after Hal.	✓	
Mabel and Hal lived with their father.	✓	