

## Flying with a dragon

*Jilly's dream has come true! In her room is a real, live dragon and they are about to have an amazing adventure. The dragon tells Jilly to climb on his back.*

And then they were off! She felt the strong upward beat of his wings as he soared through the window and into the open air.

She looked down and saw the garden below. She saw the roses, the apple trees and her father digging. She gave a gasp. What if he looked up and saw her?

'We are invisible, remember,' came Lancelot's voice. It was as if he had read her thoughts.

'So we are!' She felt suddenly free! Hurray! We can go where we like, and no one will see us. Puff some fire! Please puff some fire!'

Lancelot obeyed. It was just as she had dreamed it would be. Flames went forking out on all sides. They danced and curled like scarlet snakes.

'Hurray!' Jilly yelled again.

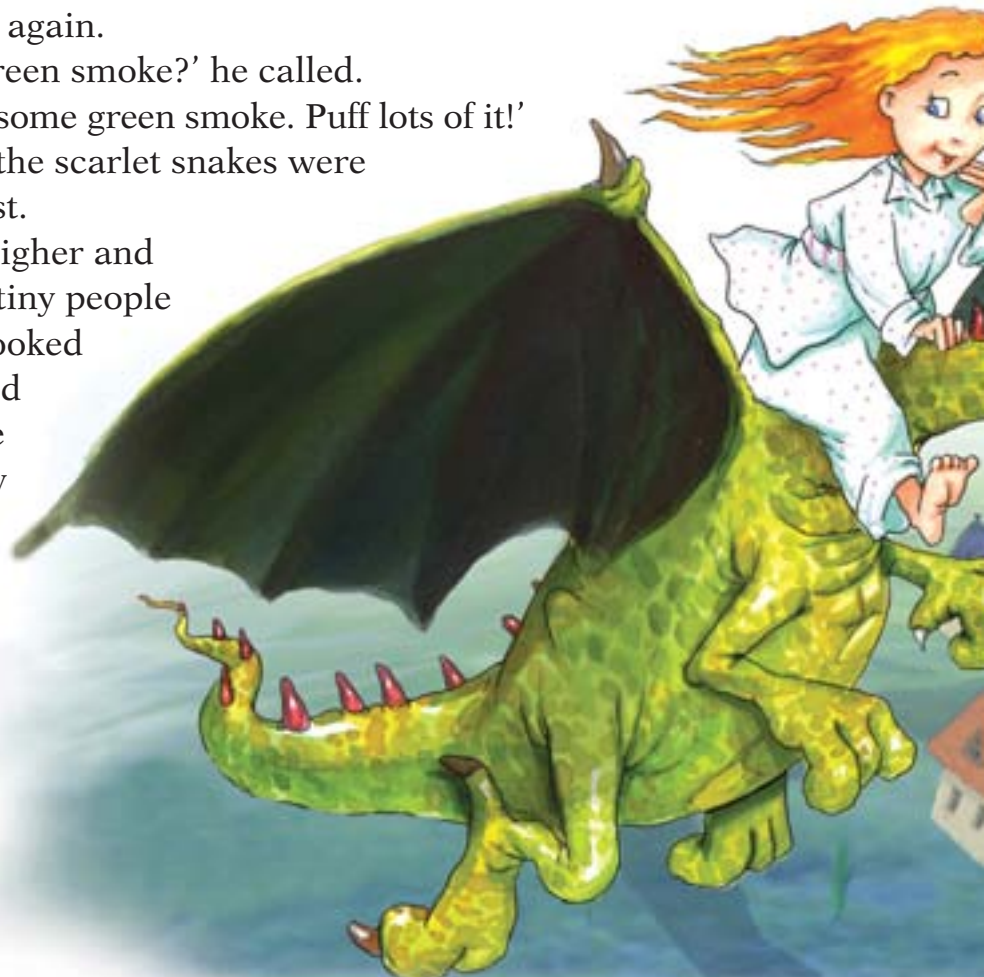
'What about some green smoke?' he called.

'Oh yes, please! Puff some green smoke. Puff lots of it!'

And so he did. Now the scarlet snakes were dancing in a green mist.

As the dragon rose higher and higher, Jilly could see tiny people walking below. They looked like toys. 'If they looked up, all they'd see is the moon coming up,' Jilly thought. They could not guess that right above their very heads was a dragon flying.

*Dragon Ride, Helen Cresswell*





### Understanding the story

- 1 How did Jilly and the dragon get out of her bedroom?
- 2 Who was in the garden?
- 3 What did Jilly ask Lancelot to do?
- 4 What else did Lancelot do?
- 5 If people looked up, what would they see?

### Looking at words

- 6 Explain the meaning of these words as they are used in the story:
 

|           |        |          |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| a soared  | b gasp | c obeyed |
| d forking |        |          |

### Exploring the adventure

- 7 Why couldn't anyone see Jilly and Lancelot?
- 8 How do you know Jilly was enjoying herself?
- 9 How does the writer describe:
 

|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| a Lancelot's fire | b the people walking below? |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|

 Explain why these are good descriptions.
- 10 How do you know that Jilly had thought about a dragon ride before?

### Extra

- Where do you think Jilly might ask the dragon to take her?
- Imagine you could go for a dragon ride. Write about where you would ask the dragon to take you and why.

