'The Tempest: A Shakespeare Story' by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross

Published by Orchard Classics

Ages 7-11

Reasons for selection and synopsis

A powerful wizard, an airy sprite, a scheming brother and an evil slave are drawn together by a violent storm on a long-forgotten island in this classic tale of power, revenge and magic.

This is a stunning adaptation of Shakespeare's final play. It is written in accessible language and manages to capture the excitement and wonder of the original play. This tale of magic and mystery is brought to life by Tony Ross's engaging black and white illustrations.

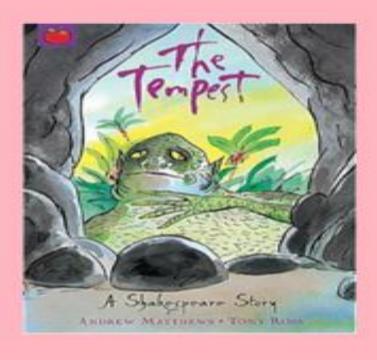
You can watch an animated adaptation of the play here:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/english/the_tempest



LO: To retrieve and infer answers from a text.

Read p 58.









Our revels now are ended.

These our actors,

As I foretold you, were all spirits and

Are melted into air, into thin air:

And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,

The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,

The solemn temples, the great globe itself,

Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve

And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,

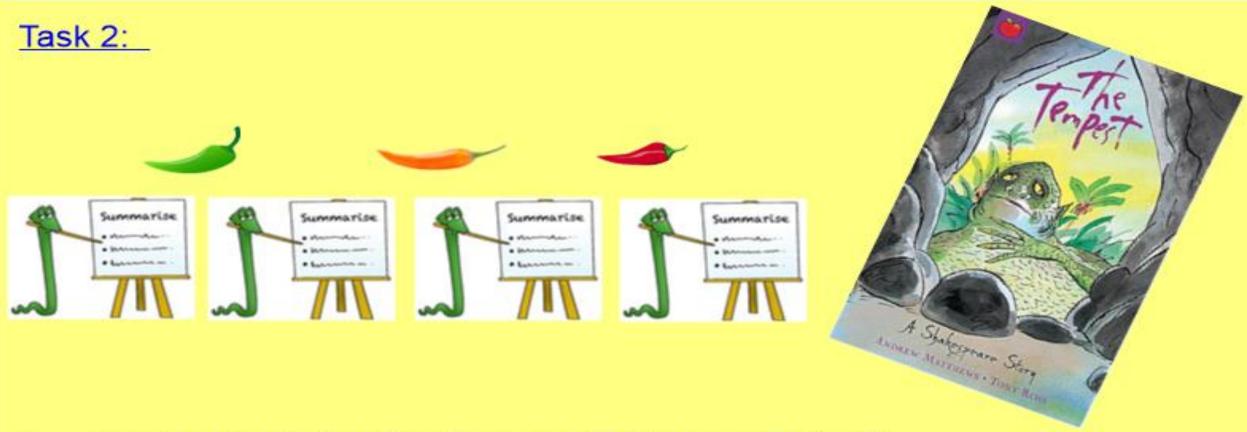
Leave not a rack behind.

We are such stuff

As dreams are made on,

and our little life Is rounded with a sleep.

- How might an actor perform this speech?
- What does Prospero mean? What do you think Shakespeare is saying about the theatre? About life?
- 3. Why do you think Prospero gives up his magic?
- 4. What is the moral of this story?



- Who is your favourite character in this story? Why?
- 2. Who do you think is the most foolish character in the story? Why?
- Summarise all the ways in which this story is similar to another romantic comedy.