

Deepening Understanding

YR 2 Narrative

Bunny Burrows by Beth Gascoigne-Owens



The day started like every other day deep in the woodland copse. The sun came up as the animals played, found food and shelter, and hid from the summer heat of the day.

Nothing was different when Keith, the tiny bunny, awoke early in the evening, ready for his night time feed. He was rather hungry so he gently stretched and peeked fearfully out into the evening air, sniffing as he went.

He'd only been out of his burrow for a few seconds when he heard the usual taunts and mocking chants... "Cowardly Keith. Cowardly Keith."

There, right in front of him, was the giant bunny who ruled the burrows in the forest. Time stood still for a second as the chants continued, "You're such a coward Keith. You can't do anything." Keith's head drooped and he hopped away back into his burrow.

He felt ashamed of himself. Was Snowball right? Was he weak and cowardly? More animals had joined in with the chants and they got louder and louder. Keith sighed and decided enough was enough. It was time to dig a new burrow away from the rest of the copse.

Waiting until the bullying bunnies had got bored and had moved away, Keith slipped out of the burrow and hopped into the woods. So many feelings flooded through him.

Suddenly, from behind him, he heard a huge scream. "Help!" the voice shouted. Someone was in trouble. Without stopping to think, Keith turned around and galloped back towards the copse. "Help. Help. Help!" shrieked the voice.

Keith hopped faster and faster towards it. He was shocked to see the copse full of woodland animals. It was packed full of rabbits, foxes, owls, hedgehogs and squirrels all looking frantic and scared. The voice was still shouting but Keith couldn't work out where it was coming from.

"The burrow collapsed," shouted a fierce fox. "Snowball and his family are down there. No one is small enough to fit into the tunnels."

"I am," said Keith firmly.

"You?" they questioned, looking confused. "Cowardly Keith?"

Before they'd even finished, Keith shot off straight towards Snowball's dangerous burrow, not even thinking of his own safety and only thinking of the poor rabbits trapped down under the ground.

He dug and dug and dug, getting further and further down towards the shouting. He was exhausted by the time he got to the family. There was Snowball huddled up, looking terrified. He couldn't believe it when he saw Keith. He was shaking and he was too scared to move.

"Come on Snowball. We've got to go through my tunnel before the burrow collapses even more. COME ON!" he shouted firmly but poor Snowball was just too scared to move.

Then the burrow began to rumble, the soil began to crumble and the rocks began to tumble. Snowball was frozen with fear. Keith grabbed the baby bunnies by the scruff of the neck and pulled them up the passageway towards safety. He dropped them into the evening air and the crowd of animals cheered. Keith didn't stop. He turned around and ran straight back down the falling warren towards Snowball.

There he was. The bright white rabbit, the colour of pure snow, was over in the corner of the collapsing burrow stuck under a rock that



was larger than Keith himself. That didn't stop the brave bunny. He pushed, shoved, groaned and rolled. The boulder moved slowly off and Keith grabbed Snowball by his pom pom tail. He dragged him upwards, struggling as he was more than twice his size. Eventually, they reached the surface. Everybody was safe.

The crowd of animals cheered and roared, "Courageous Keith, Courageous Keith".

From that day forward, the woodland animals stopped judging a book by its cover and Keith lived happily, forever a hero in the eyes of his furry forest friends.

