



Charlie Small

Charlie Small is a young boy who has had lots of amazing adventures.

Meet Charlie Small!

When Charlie Small was eight years old he just popped out to go exploring and something strange happened to him. Since then he has never got any older (he is still eight years old!) but he has had lots of different adventures, helped by his friend, the inventor Jakeman.

We recently caught up with Charlie and asked him some questions.

Tell us about some of your adventures.

I've travelled in space, been King of Gorillas, joined a gang of cut-throat pirates and lots more.

What was your most exciting adventure?

The Mummy's Tomb, when I got chased by a smoke demon.

What are your favourite pastimes?

Riding my hover-scooter, swinging through trees and battling to defeat my *arch enemy* Joseph Craik.

What other languages can you speak, apart from Gorilla?

I can speak a little bit of Mole. I can understand the howls of Braemar the White Wolf and I can speak Chimp too.

When will you return home?

I am still trying to get back home, but until I do, I'm going to keep a diary for each of my adventures. Meanwhile, mum is still expecting me back for tea...



Joseph Craik

This is the opening of one of Charlie Small's diaries.

Chapter 1

A Rude Awakening

I was driving across a wide plain on the Air-rider, a hover-scooter specially designed for me by my pal, Jakeman. He's an incredible inventor whose marvellous machines have helped me loads on my adventures.

I hovered a few centimetres from the ground and skimmed along at thirty kilometres an hour. The long grass rippled and the hot sun beat down, making the air shimmer and my eyes ache. In danger of getting heatstroke, I needed to get out of the sun.

To my left, the ground rose forming a series of cone-shaped hills, covered with patchy woodland. Opening the scooter's throttle, I zoomed towards the trees, and parked in their cool shade.

Suddenly, as I stepped from my scooter, a large flower sprang up towards me. Its bright purple, rubbery petals opened like a fan and sprayed powdery mist into my face. I coughed and spluttered as more flowers rose up, filling the air with strong perfume. I tried to weave my way through them but my head began to spin. My eyes closed and I gave a jaw-shaking yawn. I felt I must lie down. I had to sleep.

Gradually, I became aware of a hand on my collar. I was lifted up, put under a rough arm and carried into the trees. The next thing I knew, a shower of icy-cold water splashed my face and a leathery hand gently slapped my cheeks.

"Wake up, Charlie," said a deep voice.

Opening my eyes, I looked into the face of an adult male gorilla. His great head and short, thick neck stood on massive shoulders, with arms as thick as my waist, and covered in coarse black hair.

2.

1. Look at ***Meet Charlie Small!***

Find and **copy** the information from the text to complete the fact file below about Charlie Small.

Name	Charlie Small
Age	
Friend	
Worst enemy	
Most exciting adventure	

2 marks

2. How does Charlie keep a record of his adventures?

1 mark

3. Look at the paragraph beginning: *I was driving across ...*

Find and **copy two** words that show how much Charlie admires Jakeman.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

4. Look at the paragraph beginning: *I hovered a few centimetres ...*

What effect did the heat have on Charlie?

1 mark

5. Look at the paragraph beginning: *To my left, the ground...*

Give the meaning of the word *zoomed* in this sentence.

1 mark

6. Where does Charlie leave his scooter?

1 mark

7. Look at the paragraph beginning: *Suddenly, as I stepped ...*

How does the text make the flowers seem dangerous?

Give **two** ways.

1.

2.

2 marks

8. Look at ***A Rude Awakening***.

Number the following (1-5) to show the order in which they happen in the story.

The first one has been done for you.

A gorilla carries Charlie into the trees.

A gorilla stands looking down at Charlie.

Flowers spring up, spraying a mist.

Charlie feels extremely tired.

Charlie drives across a wide plain.

1 mark

9. Read from the paragraph beginning: "*Wake up, Charlie...*" to the end of the story.

How does this ending create suspense?

1 mark

10. Look at ***Meet Charlie Small!*** and ***A Rude Awakening***.

How do the texts suggest that Charlie has met gorillas in his past adventures?

Give **two** ways.

1. _____
2. _____

2 marks