



## Billy's Brain Booster Juice by Becci Murray

As the playground emptied, Curly's head popped up from the soil.

"Oh, Curly," I said, "I wish I was small like you. Then I could hide in one of your worm holes so no-one could find me. Or, even better, if you were big like me, we could say you were a bully-munching Birdasaurus Pex and no-one would pick on me ever again."

5

A hungry blackbird flitted onto the grass. It tilted its head from side to side, picturing my best-friend in an extra-long hot-dog bun, so I shooed it away and was covering Curly with a leaf when a movement caught my eye from the metal gates of the school playground.

Outside on the pavement, an old woman was staring in through the bars. She was very small with a mess of silver-blue curls on the top of her head and a face like a porcelain doll. She didn't smile, she didn't move, she didn't speak. She just stood there unblinkingly, like a mannequin in a shop window, until suddenly from the pocket of her oversized coat she produced a single sheet of paper.

10

15

The old woman lifted the page into the air. A breeze caught hold of it, carrying it through the bars of the gate and lifting it over the playground like an autumn leaf. So graceful was its dance, so mesmerising – two circles to the left, two circles to the right, two circles to the left, two circles to the right – that I didn't notice how close it was getting until it was flat on my face.

20

Startled, I snatched down the page and stared at the writing.

"I don't believe it," I breathed. "I actually don't believe it. It's another copy of the recipe. Auntie Brenda has brought it to me herself. I have to thank her, I have to ask her how she—"

But when I looked back to the gate, the street was empty and the old woman had gone.

20

30





## Questions about Billy's Brain Booster Juice

**Read the story on page 1. The narrator is called Billy.**

1. What do the words 'As the playground emptied' tell us at the beginning of the first paragraph?
2. What type of creature is Curly? Why do you think Billy covered him with a leaf?
3. What do the words 'like a mannequin in a shop window' mean?
4. Line 19 says a breeze carried the paper 'two circles to the left, two circles to the right, two circles to the left, two circles to the right.' Why does this make the reader think it wasn't a normal breeze?
5. What does the word 'mesmerising' mean?
6. Who does Billy think the old woman is? How do we know this?
7. How can the reader tell Billy is surprised by what happened in the playground?
8. By the end of the page, how is Billy feeling? How is this different to the way he felt at the start?
9. Describe the expression on Billy's face at the end of the story.

### More activities

- What similes could you use to describe something magical?
- The recipe in the story turns Billy into a super-genius. Write about what you think he does next.





# Creative writing

Make a list of food ingredients to create your own magical recipe. What super-power will it give you? Choose one of the suggestions from the bottom of the page or think up one of your own:

My magical juice recipe for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

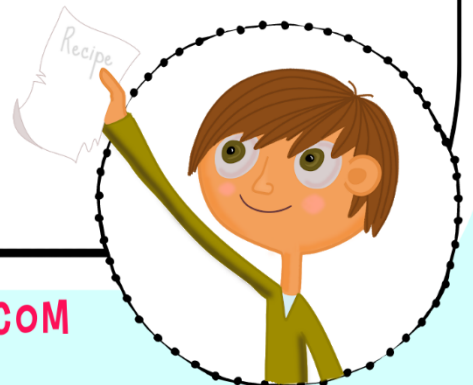
- Invisibility
- Ability to fly
- Super-strength
- Lightning speed
- Shape shifting
- Power to talk to animals





My magical juice recipe for \_\_\_\_\_

Colour your magic potion and write its name on the label.





Describe your magic potion.

My magical juice recipe super-power is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What does it taste like? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How does it smell? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What does it look like? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Write about how you feel when you get your new super-power.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## More activities

- Write an exciting story about what happens when you get your new super-power.
- Create a poem to describe your super-power. Can you think of any similes to describe it?





# Wordsearch

Can you find all of these Billy's Brain Booster Juice words in the wordsearch? The words could go across, down or diagonally.

B	A	P	S	C	H	O	O	L	O	J	V	G
R	U	C	R	F	S	S	Y	B	X	U	O	M
A	N	O	L	D	R	D	A	N	A	I	K	R
I	T	L	E	T	U	E	B	J	Y	C	L	S
N	I	I	T	E	B	I	D	E	T	E	G	G
Z	E	N	E	A	B	O	J	E	P	G	H	R
O	B	I	C	C	E	B	O	L	G	A	C	A
U	R	I	B	H	E	C	B	S	Y	H	K	N
G	E	H	M	E	I	R	N	B	T	E	P	G
R	N	K	S	R	L	A	Y	K	Q	E	H	E
W	D	B	N	B	E	B	J	T	U	B	R	R
Q	A	T	I	T	U	C	A	E	Q	P	O	A
W	A	F	L	L	B	N	I	B	Y	I	B	X
T	O	W	A	M	L	H	D	P	R	N	E	W
K	B	R	E	A	B	Y	T	D	E	S	R	M
D	P	N	M	S	C	U	R	L	Y	B	T	S

BRAIN  
 BOOSTER  
 JUICE  
 BILLY  
 MRS GRANGER  
 DANA  
 COLIN  
 ROBERT

WORM  
 TEACHER  
 SCHOOL  
 RECIPE  
 CRAB  
 EELS  
 CURLY  
 AUNTIE BRENDA





# Times tables practice



Help Billy fill up his Brain Booster Juice bottles with the answers to these times tables puzzles. How many can you complete in one minute?

$8 \times 3 =$



$10 \times 5 =$



$7 \times 2 =$



$2 \times 0 =$



$9 \times 5 =$



$6 \times 6 =$



$4 \times 7 =$



$3 \times 8 =$



$6 \times 9 =$



$2 \times 12 =$



$0 \times 4 =$



$4 \times 7 =$



$1 \times 8 =$



$6 \times 3 =$



$4 \times 3 =$



$7 \times 7 =$













# 6 Times Table Practice

## Billy's Brain Booster Maths Challenge

Can you find a path from **START** to **FINISH** using only multiples of 6?  
Watch out for the brain monsters!

<b>START</b>		28	37	49		4
24	55	3	62	32	19	61
66	75	14	26		50	7
12		63	49	22		50
72	6		21	6	60	18
8	54	30	48	42	39	12
34		51	56	49	27	42
64	33	20	88		41	<b>FINISH</b>

**MARVELLOUS MATHS  
WORK!**



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# 7 Times Table Practice

## Billy's Brain Booster Maths Challenge

Can you find a path from **START** to **FINISH** using only multiples of 7?  
Watch out for the brain monsters!

<b>START</b>	28		62	71		5
15	70	3	95	50	12	61
	42	84	14		24	87
20	32	37	49	22	10	
55	78	63	21	54	23	90
8	22	7		37	30	
34		77	56	49	56	35
	33	16	88		41	<b>FINISH</b>

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# 8 Times Table Practice

## Billy's Brain Booster Maths Challenge

Can you find a path from **START** to **FINISH** using only multiples of 8?  
Watch out for the brain monsters!

<b>START</b>	72		37	48	24	40
49	88	16	96	8	19	56
3	75	14	26		50	16
55		63	49	22	80	32
62	9		21	4	64	
17	61	28	33		56	50
34		51		39	88	49
7	33	20	95	10	96	<b>FINISH</b>

**MARVELLOUS MATHS  
WORK!**













# 9 Times Table Practice

## Billy's Brain Booster Maths Challenge

Can you find a path from **START** to **FINISH** using only multiples of 9?  
Watch out for the brain monsters!

<b>START</b>	7	88	37	41		64
27	81	3	49	32	19	61
20	36	14	26		50	8
	9	63	72	108	45	50
4	63	99	18		90	
75	55	49	62	22	9	54
34		51	56	39		99
19	33	28	21		49	<b>FINISH</b>

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## Billy's Brain Booster Maths Challenge

Can you find a path from **START** to **FINISH** using only multiples of 12?  
Watch out for the brain monsters!

<b>START</b>	4	14	37	49		50
36		3	131	32	39	61
60	72	132	12		50	7
88	49	63	84	24	144	19
75		22	122		108	55
8	51	101		96	12	
64	49		56	120	112	28
41	33	26	21	48	60	<b>FINISH</b>

**MARVELLOUS MATHS  
WORK!**





Colour this picture of Billy and his marvellous Brain Booster Juice recipe.

