

**Freestyle Note:** Kia ora whanau - use this space to write a message & let your loved one know why you thought they'd be interested in word hunt 5-6

*During my first five years at school I only learnt to recognise two words. The first word was **ZOO** & the second was **POO**. I still recall how proud I felt when I made a **connection** between a 'something' & a 'word.'*

*If your child's finding the whole reading & writing thing hard then try this resource. Take this as slow as you need to go. If your child learns one new word in a month - that's great! Because it took me 5 years to learn ZOO and POO!*

**Tips:** Don't 'mark or judge' your child's efforts - just praise them for getting anything right. They don't have to be able to read anything else in the text - they only have to 'hunt' down the two words given & please - don't be tempted to jump ahead & introduce harder words because that just adds too much pressure. **Final tip** - Don't bombard your child with too many WORD HUNTS or other educational activities week after week. Introduce these resources softly & slowly as a key to learning is removing the potential to fail.

*Arohanui Darly*

## Let's go on a WORD HUNT

Grab a pencil, pen or highlighter and circle or highlight any word that looks like:

Was or his



Hey mum/dad if you get phone calls - give your child a couple of examples of when in or to can be used:  
example: what **was** that? What was **his** name?

## Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

### CHAPTER TWO - THE VANISHING GLASS

*"I know they don't," said Harry. "It was only a dream."*

But he wished he hadn't said anything. If there **was** one thing the Dursleys hated even more than **his** asking questions, it was **his** talking about anything acting in a way it shouldn't, no matter if it **was** in a dream or even a cartoon — they seemed to think he might get dangerous ideas.

It was a very sunny Saturday and the zoo was crowded with families.

The Dursleys bought Dudley and Piers large chocolate ice creams at the entrance and then, because the smiling lady in the van had asked Harry what he wanted before they could hurry him away, they bought him a cheap lemon ice pop. It wasn't bad, either, Harry thought, licking it as they watched a gorilla scratching its head who looked remarkably like Dudley, except that it wasn't blond.

Harry had the best morning he'd had in a long time. He was careful to walk a little way apart from the Dursleys so that Dudley and Piers, who were starting to get bored with the animals by lunchtime, wouldn't fall back on their favourite hobby of hitting him.

They ate in the zoo restaurant, and when Dudley had a tantrum because his knickerbocker glory didn't have enough ice cream on top, Uncle Vernon bought him another one and Harry was allowed to finish the first.

Harry felt, afterward, that he should have known it was all too good to last.

After lunch they went to the reptile house. It was cool and dark in there, with lit windows all along the walls. Behind the glass, all sorts of lizards and snakes were crawling and slithering over bits of wood and stone.

Dudley and Piers wanted to see huge, poisonous cobras and thick, man-crushing pythons. Dudley quickly found the largest snake in the place. It could have wrapped its body twice around Uncle Vernon's car and crushed it into a trash can — but at the moment it didn't look in the mood. In fact, it was fast asleep.

Dudley stood with his nose pressed against the glass, staring at the glistening brown coils.

“Make it move,” he whined at his father. Uncle Vernon tapped on the glass, but the snake didn’t budge.

“Do it again,” Dudley ordered. Uncle Vernon rapped the glass smartly with his knuckles, but the snake just snoozed on.

“This is boring,” Dudley moaned. He shuffled away.

Harry moved in front of the tank and looked intently at the snake. He wouldn’t have been surprised if it had died of boredom itself — no company except stupid people drumming their fingers on the glass trying to disturb it all day long.

It was worse than having a cupboard as a bedroom, where the only visitor was Aunt Petunia hammering on the door to wake you up; at least he got to visit the rest of the house.

The snake suddenly opened its beady eyes. Slowly, very slowly, it raised its head until its eyes were on a level with Harry’s.

It winked.



***Ask Mum or Dad to send you the next part!***

Hey & if you want an extra task, hunt down and mark anything that looks like: **snake**

*Draw a picture of Harry Potter talking to the snake?*

**I AM A WORD HUNTER & I HAVE THE POWER**