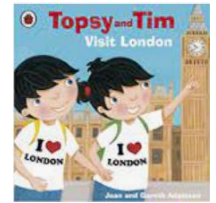




**Title:**

Topsy and Tim visit London



**Author:**

Jean Adamson

**Blurb:**

Topsy and Tim find fun and adventure in the real world. Their engaging stories are reassuring for young children having first experiences of their own.

**Author background:**

Jean Adamson, MBE is a writer and illustrator of children's books. She studied illustration at Goldsmiths College at University of London. After graduating, she began teaching illustration and design at the University. She is best known for the Topsy and Tim books, the first of which was published in 1960 and were relaunched in 2003. Adamson received an MBE in the 2000 New Year Honours for her services to children's literature and in 2016, she was made Honorary Fellow of Goldsmiths College. Jean and her husband Gareth Adamson have sold over 21 million copies in fifty years of their iconic Topsy and Tim books. Topsy and Tim help guide children through various 'new experiences',

**Cultural background:**

**Beefeaters** - they are the ceremonial guards of the Tower of London. Their official title is 'The Yeomen Warders of Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress the Tower of London, and Members of the Sovereign's Body Guard of the Yeoman Guard Extraordinary'.

**Ravens of the Tower of London**- Their presence is traditionally believed to protect The Crown and the Tower; a superstition holds that "if the Tower of London ravens are lost or fly away, the Crown will fall and Britain with it."

**London Underground** - London Underground has been known as the Tube since 1890 due to the shape of the tunnels. The first deep-level electric railway line also opened in 1890.

**Literary terms:**

**Alliteration** – Big Ben, big bicycle

**Onomatopoeia** - Bong-Bong-Bong, .....clash, clash

**Simile** - A simile compares one thing to another using like or as. For example, 'It was turning round very, very slowly, *like a great big bicycle wheel.*'

## BOOK ANALYSIS

**Fronted adverbials of time** – ‘ On Monday, On Wednesday, .....’

**Past tense vocabulary** - were, was, had

**Spelling – suffix -ed** passed, floated, enjoyed, chimed

**Third person narrator** - A text in the third person is written about a character but is not told from their point of view. For example, ‘*On Tuesday morning, Topsy and Tim went on a London underground Train.*’

### **Vocabulary examples:**

Chime, parade, beautiful, escalator, armour, ravens, Beefeater

### **Benefits for our children:**

This book follows a well-loved and trusted pair of children having an exciting trip to the capital city. They see the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace, see the dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum, and even meet the famous Beefeaters at the Tower of London.

It enables the children to become familiar with the famous Historical sites in London and the different events that take place there. It links perfectly with the class Topic of ‘Bright Lights and Big City’, which provides a wealth of knowledge and learning about the history of London as well as the geographical location of some of its most famous Landmarks.

This book is supported by e-books and is part of a series on Cbeebies, which shows Topsy and Tim actually visiting London which makes the experience real for the children to see and learn about.