

Charlie Changes into a Chicken: Feelings Detective Files

Aim:

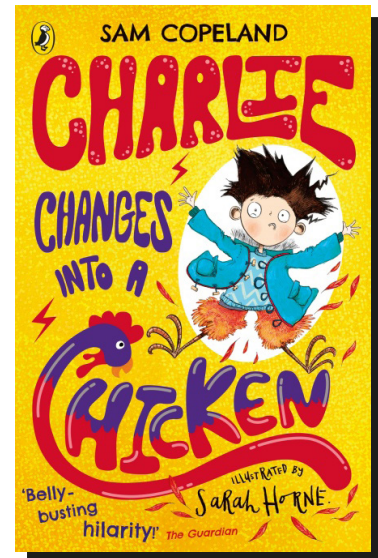
To deduce a character's feelings

Outcome:

Feelings Detective File on Charlie

You will need:

- Photocopies of Feelings Detective worksheet
- Magnifying glass (optional)
- Extract or copies of the book



Introduction:

Understanding how other people are feeling is an important part of empathy, and we can use stories to practise this skill. **If a writer doesn't tell us directly how a character is feeling, how else might we work it out? What other clues, or evidence, as Charlie calls it, could we look for? Don't forget to investigate context, actions, behaviour and body language. Can you think of any other clues?**

We are going to be Feelings Detectives, looking closely at the text and working out how Charlie is feeling in this scene.

Instructions:

Display the Feelings Detective File on the IWB

- Hand out smaller copies to the children – along with a magnifying glass prop if you have one.
- Read aloud the passage from the book and then fill in the first box together:

**What is the
context?**

**How do
you know?**

**What clues
can you find?**

- Children work with a partner to complete the rest of the boxes, then write at the bottom of the sheet a couple of sentences about how they think Charlie is feeling and why.
- Ask children to explain the clues they have found and what they have deduced about how Charlie is feeling.
- Try making Feelings Detective Files for characters in other books too!

**Get a full resource pack about managing
'Big Feelings' from the Puffin Schools website**



What is the context?

How do you know?

What clues can you find?

How is Charlie feeling?



Charlie Changes into a Chicken

As soon as Charlie and his mum and dad got home from visiting SmoothMove, Charlie ran straight upstairs to his bedroom. He dived into his bed, under his duvet, and tried not to think about the ‘big scan’ that his brother had just been telling him about. After a while, he wiped his eyes and propped the duvet up with a tennis racquet to turn his bed into a tent. Once the tent was steady and stopped collapsing, he switched on his torch and began reading his favourite book. Charlie’s favourite book was about volcanoes. It had pictures of massive explosions and orangey-red lava, and he liked to imagine he was escaping certain death by sliding down the volcano, surfing lava and dodging explosions. The sound of his parents arguing downstairs rumbled through the house, low like thunder. Charlie closed his book. He couldn’t concentrate. Darkness had fallen outside, and the street light outside Charlie’s window was making uncanny shadows on his bedroom wall. The silhouettes of the tree branches looked a little too much like long, clutching witches’ fingers for Charlie’s liking, so, quick as a flash, he sprang out of bed and pulled his curtains together.