

# Learning with **Roald Dahl** 1

## The Twits

**Read the whole story to the children before exploring the descriptive passages in the book.**

**Read all about Mr Twit.**

*“Mr Twit was one of these very hairy-faced men. The whole of his face except for his forehead, his eyes and his nose, was covered with thick hair. The stuff even sprouted in revolting tufts out of his nostrils and ear-holes.*

*Mr Twit felt that his hairiness made him look terrifically wise and grand. But in truth he was neither of these things. Mr Twit was a twit. He was born a twit. And now at the age of sixty, he was a bigger twit than ever.*

*The hair on Mr Twit’s face didn’t grow smooth and matted as it does on most hairy-faced men. It grew in spikes that stuck out straight like the bristles of a nailbrush.*

*And how often did Mr Twit wash this bristly nailbrushy face of his?*

*The answer is NEVER, not even on Sundays.*

*He hadn’t washed it for years.”*

**Get the children to work in pairs to underline the words and phrases that tell us about what Mr Twit looks like. Discuss the children’s choices of words, particularly identifying and listing the adjectives.**

**Now read about Mrs Twit.**

*“The funny thing is that Mrs Twit wasn’t born ugly. She’d had quite a nice face when she was young. The ugliness had grown upon her year by year as she got older.*

*Why would that happen? I’ll tell you why.*

*If a person has ugly thoughts, it begins to show on the face. And when that person has ugly thoughts every day, every week, every year, the face gets uglier and uglier until it gets so ugly you can hardly bear to look at it.*

*A person who has good thoughts cannot ever be ugly. You can have a wonky nose and a crooked mouth and a double-chin and stick-out teeth, but if you have good thoughts they will shone out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely.”*

