

STIG OF THE DUMP KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Plot: Stig of the Dump is a classic story book about when two boys, who are complete opposites of each other, become friends.

It all starts when Barney goes down the chalk pit, where everyone tells him not to go, to find a little dilapidated, scruffy hut. That was not the only thing; he also found a man. But not just an ordinary man, no! A cave man named Stig. The story is all about how Stig and Barney's friendship blossoms with a few bumps on the way. It's also about the adventures they get into. These include hunting hounds, stopping robbers, decorating Stig's house and many, many more.

Themes: unusual friendships, loyalty, bravery.

Setting: When author, Clive King, was young his family moved to a village called Ash, near Sevenoaks in Kent, which is the setting for Stig of the Dump.

Name of book:	Stig of the Dump
Date Published:	1963
Author:	Clive King
Genre:	Modern children's classic

KEY QUOTES

"He wished he lived all of the time at granny's house so that he could get to know Stig"
 "Stig's just a pretend friend, isn't he Barney?"
 "Stig seemed to understand that Barney was approving of his home and his face lit up."
 "Dressed in jerseys & trousers that were grubbier & more tattered than his own."

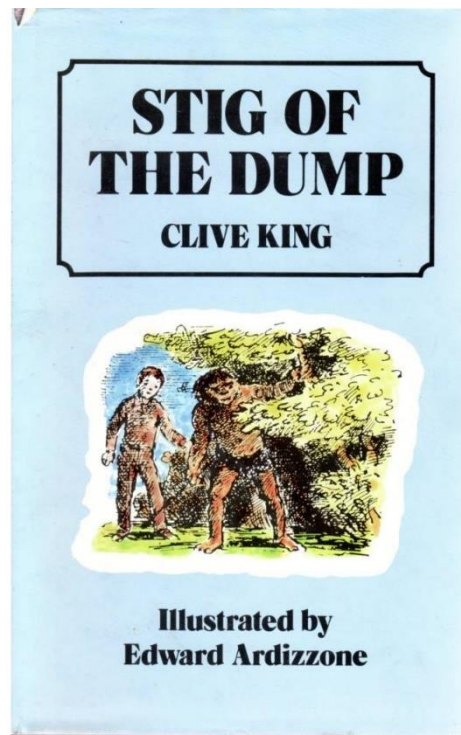
CHARACTERS

Barney – an ordinary boy who helps the reader empathise and imagine what it would be like if the events of the story were to happen to them. Barney has a sense of adventure and can be mischievous.

Stig – a stone age man who lives in the 'dump' inside the chalk pit. Stig is ingenious, making tools out of rubbish. He is kind and loyal to Barney.

Lou – Barney's elder sister. Although she is a good sister she spends much of the story not believing in Stig.

The Snargets – three boys who come from the poor end of town. At the start of the story the boys do not get on with Barney but over time they realise they have common interests.



DISCUSSION POINTS

- What indicators are there that Stig might be a stone age man?
- How can friendship blossom without language?
- What might threaten Stig's existence?

VOCABULARY

Chalk pit	A quarry from which chalk is extracted. A place, typically a large, deep pit, from which stone or other materials are or have been extracted.
Old man's beard	A large lichen that forms shaggy greyish growths on the branches of trees.
Stone Age	A prehistoric period when weapons and tools were made of stone or of organic materials such as bone, wood, or horn.
language	The principal method of human communication, consisting of words used in a structured and conventional way and conveyed by speech, writing, or gesture.
Flint	A hard grey rock consisting of nearly pure silica (chert), occurring chiefly as nodules in chalk.
Linoleum	A material consisting of a canvas backing thickly coated with a preparation of linseed oil and powdered cork, used especially as a floor covering.
Turnip	A round root with white or cream flesh which is eaten as a vegetable and also has edible leaves.
Chilblains	A painful, itching swelling on a hand or foot, caused by poor circulation in the skin when exposed to cold.