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opening extract from

The Monkey Pirates

written by

Mark Skelton

published by

Egmont Children's Books

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The Monkey Pirates by Mark Skelton. TRY IT!

‘Travelling in a wardrobe with twelve monkeys dressed as pirates is going to be very odd,’ thought Emily Jane. And of course she was absolutely right.

There is something else that you should know about travelling in a wardrobe and that is:

A) It’s very dark.

And when you travel in a wardrobe with monkeys in it, it is also:

B) A bit hairy.

And when you are travelling in a wardrobe with Monkey Pirates in it, it is also:

C) Full of pirate talk.

Inside the wardrobe the Monkey Pirates called out instructions:

‘Splice the main brace!’ said the Captain, although he wasn’t too sure what a main brace was or how to splice one.

‘Weigh the anchor!’ said Guff, which was something he had heard that pirates say a lot.

‘Shiver me timbers,’ said Poppycock, who wasn’t exactly sure how to make anybody’s timbers shiver.

‘Mumpull flam trump!’ suggested Gobbledygook.

‘Aaaarrrrgh!’ agreed Gibberish.

‘Umm, comb your hair?’ suggested Dave, which Emily Jane thought was a bit strange, coming from a pirate.

After a while, with much shaking, rattling, rolling, monkey noises and obviously a few cries of ‘Bananas and barnacles!’ they came to rest.

The doors sprang open and out fell twelve monkeys and one little girl.

They found themselves in a very large and empty bedroom, but none of them knew where they were.