

for others

“The change in Charlie in the space of only a week could not go unnoticed.”

Charlie is 13 and had a number of behavioural issues that affected his life both in school and at home with friends. He struggled academically and in relationships with his peers.

He didn't always have the words to express his feelings; finding life hard to cope with, and discovering it was easier to lash out.

Charlie was brought home multiple times by the police in the space of a few weeks. He needed to be listened to, and people did, but it didn't always get through to Charlie.

Reluctantly, he agreed to give the *Shared Reading* sessions 'a go'. Charlie talked to us, coming across as engaging and intelligent.

He had lots of interests including the First World War and so we tailored our first *Shared Reading* session to reflect this.

He was able to connect closely with the book, Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful*, talking about complex matters such as morality and survival, and the actions of its lead character Tommo.

Charlie spoke about how he often takes the blame for things his friends do.

When asked what Tommo might do in the same case, he became quiet and contemplative, responding thoughtfully and empathetically that 'Tommo would probably do the right thing.'

Following the success of his reading sessions, Charlie attended a Young Reader Event. The change in Charlie in the space of only a week could not go unnoticed. At the event he served as a role model for the younger, more disruptive boys which led to one particular boy reducing his hostility significantly - all thanks to Charlie.

Get in touch and be part of the story

0151 729 2200 info@thereader.org.uk

thereader.org.uk [@thereaderorg](https://twitter.com/thereaderorg)