

The Secret Garden

Frances Hodgson Burnett

When Colin calls Magic a scientific experiment, which parts of his method can actually be tested?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Colin calls belief a scientific experiment
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter XXIII · Magic
START	“Of course there must be lots of Magic in the world,” he said wisely one day, “but people don’t know what it is like or how to make it.
END	And you must all do it, too.
PASSAGE ID	sec-sg-04

THE MOVE

Distinguish testable action from explanation

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Colin calls Magic a scientific experiment, but his method mixes testable routines—fresh air, movement, repeated practice—with explanations that cannot be measured directly. The passage is useful because students can separate an effective method from the theory Colin uses to explain it.

MARK

Create two labels: TESTABLE and NOT DIRECTLY TESTABLE. Underline Colin’s actions or routines and place them under one label; circle his claims about Magic and place them under the other.

NOTICE

- Which parts of Colin's 'experiment' could another person repeat and observe?
- Which claims depend on belief rather than measurable evidence?
- Can a method produce real results even if the explanation for why it works is uncertain?

THINK

Answer provisionally: When Colin calls Magic a scientific experiment, which parts of his method can actually be tested? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: When Colin calls Magic a scientific experiment, which parts of his method can actually be tested? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	The testable parts of Colin's 'experiment' are repeated actions and observable effects: fresh air, movement, standing, exercise, repetition, and changes in strength. The explanation called Magic is less directly testable than the method.
EVIDENCE	Separate repeatable actions and observable results from claims about invisible Magic causing them.
WATCH FOR	Do not assume an explanation must be correct because the routine produces improvement. Method and explanation need to be evaluated separately.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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START ANCHOR	“Of course there must be lots of Magic in the world,” he said wisely one day, “but people don’t know what it is like or how to make it.
END ANCHOR	And you must all do it, too.

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Create two labels: TESTABLE and NOT DIRECTLY TESTABLE. Underline Colin’s actions or routines and place them under one label; circle his claims about Magic and place them under the other.
2. NOTICE - Which parts of Colin’s 'experiment' could another person repeat and observe? Which claims depend on belief rather than measurable evidence? Can a method produce real results even if the explanation for why it works is uncertain?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: When Colin calls Magic a scientific experiment, which parts of his method can actually be tested?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.