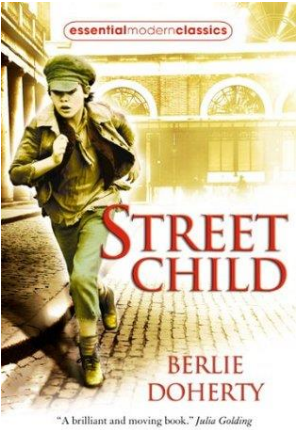


# Knowledge Organiser- Street Child by Berlie Doherty.

Important information	
<b>Plot</b> Jim Jarvis is a runaway. When his mother dies, Jim is all alone in the workhouse and desperate to escape. However, Victorian London is a dangerous place and for a small every day is a battle for survival. Just when things seem to be looking up, he is snatched away and forced to work for Grimy Nick and his vicious dog, snipe. Will Jim ever be free?	
<b>Themes</b> Poverty Kindness Judging others. Compassion	
<b>Setting</b> The book opens in the slums of London where Jim's family have been forced to live after the death of their family. After his mother death, Jim find himself in the workhouse until he escapes to the streets of London. When he begins working for Grimy Nick, Jim spends much of his time on the banks of the Thames, moving coal from the large ships back to the mainland.	
Characters	
Character 1	Jim Jarvis: the protagonist who escapes the workhouse looking for a better life.
Character 2	Tip: Jim's best friend in the workhouse.
Character 3	Shrimps: a street child who helps Jim survive on the streets.
Character 4	Rosie: a cook who offers Jim a home after his workhouse escape
Character 5	Grimy Nick and Snipe the Dog: a coal boat owner who buys Jim and makes his life unbearable.
Character 6	Emily and Lizzie: Jim's sisters.



What can the book teach us?

Show compassion to those who need help.

Never stop trying to improve your life, even when things are at their worse.

Quotes

*"My story, mister? What d'you want to know that for? Ain't much of a story, mine ain't!"*

*And he looks at me, all quiet. "It is, Jim," he says. "It's a very special story."*

**Writing genres covered:**

Diary entry, narrative retelling, autobiography.

**Sentence types:** Use of fronted adverbials to start sentences in different ways, use devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs (*adverbials of time and pronoun use*), use of organisational devices such as headings and bullet points.

Name of book: Street Child  
 Date Published: 1995  
 Author: Berlie Doherty  
 Genre: Historical Fiction.

Cane	A long stick, used to punish children.
Constable	A police officer of low rank.
Governor	The head of the workhouse.
Landlord	The owner of a rented property.
Slum	An area where very poor people live.
Workhouse	A building where the poor work in return for food and housing.
Docks	an enclosed area of water in a port for the loading, unloading, and repair of ships.
Cargo	Goods carried on transport.

**Context**

Berlie Doherty is a distinguished writer for young people, and has twice won the Carnegie Medal for *Granny* and *Dear Nobody*. A former teacher, he has also written plays for theatre, radio and television. If you enjoyed this book then why don't you try the accompanying novel, "far from home", which tell the story of Jim's sisters.