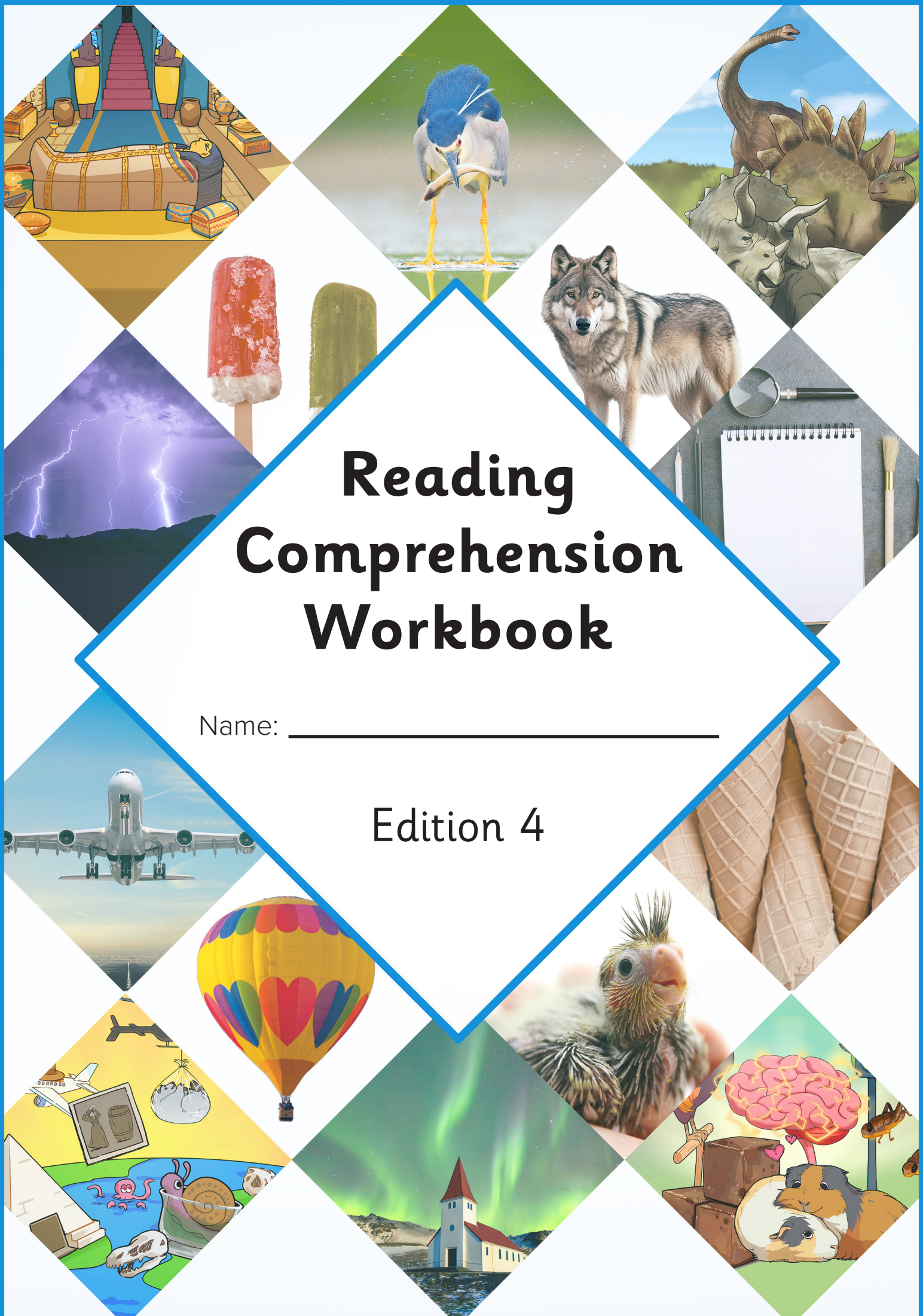

Reading Comprehension Workbook

Name: _____

Edition 4

Comprehension Workbook

Edition 4

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Hot Air Balloons (pages 1-8)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

expand (p3)	grow or get bigger
ascend (p5)	go up
descend (p5)	go down
release (p5)	set free

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

When you start the burner, the balloon will _____ with hot air.

You can pull a rope to _____ air from the balloon.

After you release the air, the balloon starts to _____ back down to the ground.

Balloons _____ from the ground straight up into the air.

Anagram

Unjumble the letters and write out the word. Use the riddle to help.

Where does the hot air come out of, in the hot air balloon?

b r u n r e _____

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Hot air balloons can't fly over mountains. (p1)		
Hot air balloons have three parts. (p3)		
Hot air releases from the top of the balloon. (p5)		
It's good to have help to land a balloon. (p7)		

Questions to Answer

1. What part of the balloon do you stand in? (p3)

_____

2. How do you fill the balloon with hot air to make it rise? (p3)

_____

_____

3. What do balloons try to land on, in competitions? (p5)

_____

4. Where is the best kind of place to land? (p7)

_____

5. What are balloon baskets often made of? (p7)

_____

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Hot Air Balloons (p9-20)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

height (p11)	how high something is
temples (p19)	religious buildings
thrill (p20)	a feeling of excitement
romantic (p20)	full of emotion, especially love

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

If you take a hot air balloon ride with the person you love, it can feel _____.

The first hot air balloon ride lost _____ over the sea.

You can fly over religious _____ in Thailand.

You feel a _____ when you are up high in a balloon.

Circle the Word

Circle one word that means "flying" (p17).

All of that time, he was floating above the planet in a little yellow box.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The first hot air balloon flight was launched by the king of England. (p9)		
It carried a pig, a duck and a turkey. (p9)		
It flew across the English Channel. (p11)		
The pilots threw everything overboard to survive. (p11-13)		
Steve Fossett flew around the world in two months. (p17)		
His flight was in 2002. (p17)		

Questions to Answer

1. What was the first hot air balloon made out of? (p9)

_____

2. How did the first pilots avoid falling into the sea? (p11-13)

_____

_____

3. What is it called when you fill up your balloon at night? (p15)

_____

4. What did Steve Fossett have inside his balloon basket? (p17-18)

_____

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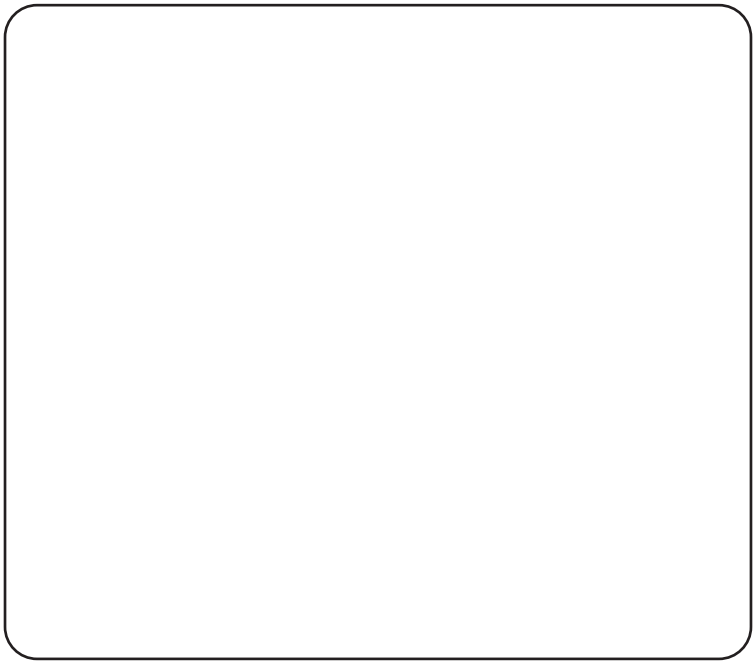
Hot Air Balloons Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file all about hot air balloons.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

balloon	basket	burner	launch	competition
hot air	descend	deflate	expand	land

1. Which adventure from this book would you most like to go on? Sailing across the channel? Around the world? Over a field? Pick one and describe.

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Design your own hot air balloon.
- ⚓ Label the parts.
- ⚓ Pair up and discuss where you would most like to visit in your balloon and explain why.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ What are some reasons people might have for going up in a hot air balloon? Would you want to go? Why or why not?

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Amazing Baby Animals (p1-8)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

survive (p3)	continue to live or exist, rather than die
separate (p3)	break apart
deaf (p4)	unable to hear
blind (p4)	unable to see
imprint (p5)	an animal recognising a parent for the first time and forming an instant bond
identify (p7)	recognise

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Piglets learn to _____ their mother's grunts and oinks.

Parrots _____ on their parents and form an instant bond.

Dogs are born _____ and _____. They cannot hear or see.

If turtles hatch together, they have a better chance to _____.

Turtles don't stay together after hatching. They _____.

Find and Copy

Find and copy two words on page 1 that describe how turtles talk:

_____ and _____

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Turtles chirp inside their eggs. (p1)		
Puppies are born with purple spots. (p3)		
Baby parrots can bond with humans. (p5-6)		
Piglets never have dreams. (p7)		
Piglets can identify their mother's voice. (p7)		

Questions to Answer

1. Why do turtles talk to each other in their eggs? (p1)

_____

_____

2. What odd colour can a puppy's fur be when born? (p3)

_____

3. How long does a puppy usually stay with its mother? (p4)

_____

Draw Lines

Draw three lines to match each part of the piglets' bodies to the word which describes how it moves, when they dream. (p7-9)

ears	wiggle
legs	flap
noses	churn

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Amazing Baby Animals (p9-16)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

joey (p9)	a baby kangaroo, koala or possum
protects (p9)	keeps safe
suckle (p12)	when a baby drinks milk from their mother
limb (p13)	an arm or leg
fused (p15)	connected
texture (p16)	what something feels like to touch

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

A tail is like an extra _____ for a kangaroo.

Two of a koala's toes are _____ together.

Fingerprints help us feel the _____ of things.

A kangaroo's pouch holds her baby _____ and _____ it from harm.

Possum babies are too weak to _____ milk.

Circle the Word

Circle one word that shows what the pouch does for the babies. (p9)

The pouch protects them since they are born blind and weak.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Kangaroo joeys are the size of a rice grain. (p9)		
Kangaroos stay in the pouch for only two months. (p11)		
You could fit twelve possum babies in a teaspoon. (p11)		
Kangaroos can balance on their tail. (p13)		
We have fingerprints to feel textures. (p16)		

Questions to Answer

1. Why do kangaroo babies need to stay in pouches? (p9)

_____

_____

2. How do possum joeys get to the safety of the pouch? (p12)

_____

_____

3. When do kangaroos tip back on their tails? (p13)

_____

_____

4. What's one thing koalas do with their fused digits? (p15)

_____

_____

5. Besides humans and koalas, what other animal has fingerprints? (p16)

_____

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Amazing Baby Animals (p17-25)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

spa (p17)	a mineral spring or an indoor jacuzzi

Fill in the Blank

Now, add the word to the empty space in the sentence below:

Macaques love to hang out in the mineral spring _____.

Tick Two

Baby macaques love to...

- ☐ sit in hot springs
- ☐ throw snowballs
- ☐ sleep all day
- ☐ play underground

Anagram

Unjumble the letters and write out the word. Use the riddle to help.

These animals love to have snowball fights.

m a c q s a u e _____

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Adult macaques hate holding babies. (p17)		
Baby pandas weigh the same as a bar of soap. (p19)		
Baby pandas are born pink. (p19)		
Baby blue whales are the size of an ambulance. (p21)		
Baby elephants blow bubbles with their trunks. (p23)		
Baby elephants are born without trunks. (p23)		

Questions to Answer

1. Where would you find macaques relaxing in hot springs? (p17)

_____

2. How much do giant panda babies weigh when they are born? (p19)

_____

3. How often do baby whales gain 4.5 kilos? (p21)

_____

4. How much milk would you have to drink to match a baby whale? (p23)

_____

5. Give one reason why having a trunk is sometimes hard for a baby elephant. (p23)

_____

_____

_____

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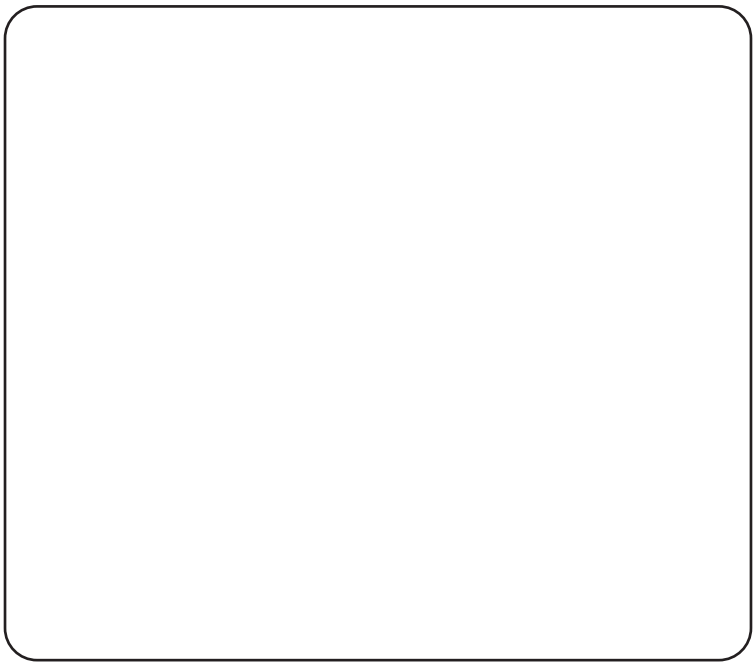
Amazing Baby Animals Extension Activities

Fact File

Choose your favourite baby animal from this book and create a fact file all about it.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

giant panda	joey	elephant	blue whale	piglet
possum	kangaroo	koala	puppy	turtle
macaque	parrot	hatch	trunk	imprint

1. What are your top three fascinating facts from reading this book?

2. Write a letter to your parents asking them for one of these baby animals as a pet. Don't forget to include why you think they would make a great pet!

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- Draw a picture of your ideal pet; it doesn't have to be from this book. Label the parts.
- Charades: pick a baby animal from this book and act it out for your friends to guess.

Themes to Discuss

- Why do you think most baby animals are born being able to do so much more than baby humans can do?

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Fish vs Bird (p1-8)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

shallow (p3)	not very deep
pouch (p4)	a flexible bit of skin on the lower part of a bird's beak
predators (p7)	an animal that kills and eats other animals
disguise (p8)	change your appearance, so you might not be recognised

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

The large throat _____ on a pelican is used to drain water.

Pelicans drive fish into _____ water.

Penguins have a great _____ from above and below the water.

Penguins' colours help them to hide from _____.

Sequencing

Turn to page 3. Number the sentences below to show the order in which they happen.

They scoop the fish into their beaks. ☐

They beat their wings on the water. ☐

They eat the fish. ☐

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Pelicans eat live fish in one gulp. (p6)		
Pelicans and penguins eat fish. (p4-6)		
Penguins have long wings. (p6)		
Penguins can easily hide from predators. (p7)		
Penguins are black all over. (p8)		

Questions to Answer

1. Name the two parts of a pelican's head which help it to catch fish. (p3)

_____

2. How do pelicans use their wings to help them catch fish? (p3)

_____

_____

3. Find and copy the word used to describe a penguin's body. (p6)

_____

4. Explain how the colours of a penguin help it to hide. (pgs 7-8)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Fish vs Bird (p9-16)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

prey (p9)	an animal that is caught and killed by another animal for food
glide (p10)	to move with a smooth motion
talons (p10)	claws (especially on birds of prey)
apex predators (p15)	animals who eat other animals and that are at the top of the food chain

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Ospreys hunt their _____ by flying high and then diving down.

Ospreys use their _____ and sticky scales to grab fish.

Ospreys _____ along the water like water skiers.

Giant trevally fish are _____ at the top of the food chain.

Anagram

Unjumble the letters and write out the word. Use the riddle to help.

Sharks and humans are the only threats to these fish.

g n i t a t r v e l l a y

_____

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Ospreys fly high so they can spot fish in the water. (p9)		
Ospreys have talons and sticky scales to grab their prey. (p10-11)		
Ospreys have small wings. (p11)		
Giant trevally fish can grow to six feet long. (p13)		
Giant trevally fish swim deep in the water. (p13-14)		

Questions to Answer

1. Where do Ospreys build their nests? (p9)

_____

2. Which part of an Osprey's body hits the water first when they dive down to catch a fish? (p9)

_____

3. Find and copy a word that means the same as 'stop' on page 11. (p11)

_____

4. In which ocean would you find giant trevally fish? (p13)

_____

5. Find and copy a word to show how the giant trevally fish eats birds. (p15)

_____

6. Name the only two threats to apex predators. (p15)

_____

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Fish vs Bird (p17-24)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

swimming tongues (p18)	a phrase sometimes used to describe catfish, who can smell and taste with both the inside and outside of their bodies.
barbels (p19)	whiskers found on the head area of some fish
needle-sharp teeth (p21)	teeth that are sharp, like needles

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

_____ is the phrase sometimes used by scientists to describe the powerful tastebuds of catfish.

Inside a pike's jaw, you will find lots of _____.

Catfish have _____ on their face to help them sense splashes in the water.

Anagram

Unjumble the letters and write out the word. Use the riddle to help.

These animals love the taste of pigeon.

c t ƒ a s h i _____

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Pigeons wash their feathers on the edges of canals. (p18)		
Barbels can be found on a pigeon's face. (p19)		
Northern pike fish eat little baby ducks. (p21)		
Northern pike fish swim very slow. (p21)		
Ducks don't lay many eggs. (p22)		

Questions to answer

1. Why do you think it is a bad mistake for pigeons to wash their feathers on the edge of a canal? (p18)

_____

_____

2. What is one term that scientists call catfish to describe their powerful taste and smell senses? (p18)

_____

3. 'Freshwater killer whales' is the term used to describe which fish? (p19)

_____

4. What do northern pike fish swim fast to catch? (p21)

_____

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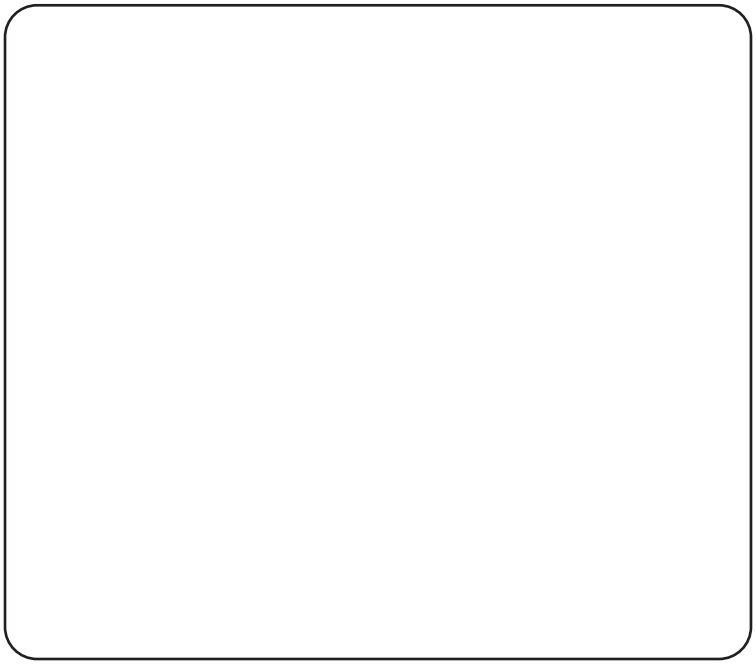
Fish vs Bird Extension Activities

Fact File

Choose your favourite bird or fish from this book and create a fact file about this animal.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

pelican	pouch	surface	leap	penguin
osprey	glide	talons	trevally	catfish
pigeon	barbel	pike	fierce	teeth

1. What are your top five fascinating facts from reading this book?

2. Create an adventure story with the birds and fish from this book as characters.

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Make your own paper bird or fish.
- ⚓ Draw and label an under the sea scene. How many different types of fish can you include?

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ If you could be a fish or a bird, which would you choose and why?
- ⚓ Which animal do you think is the greater predator and why?

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Wacky Weather (p1-11)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

flood (p1)	a huge amount of flowing water
valley (p1)	a low area of land between mountains or hills
non-aqueous (p3)	not water-based
tornado (p3)	a swirling funnel of strong winds

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

A _____ can cause damage with its high winds.

When a valley has a _____ lots of water flows into it.

The flat place between two mountains is called a _____.

_____ rain can cause frogs to fall from the sky.

Sequencing

Turn to page 1. Number the sentences below to show the order in which they happen.

The ice pushes the rock. ☐

The valley floods. ☐

The water freezes. ☐

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Rocks can move across a valley floor. (p1-3)		
Fish and frogs can rain from the sky. (p5)		
Lightning is a burst of thunder. (p5)		
If you get stuck in a lightning storm, stand up. (p9)		
Catatumbo lightning happens for two hours a day. (p11)		

Questions to Answer

1. What pushes the rocks across the valley? (p1)

_____

_____

2. What can cause non-aqueous rain? (p3)

_____

3. What is the negative electric charge in lightning trying to find (p5)?

_____

_____

4. What are the chances of being struck by lightning (p8)?

_____

_____

5. Where does Catatumbo lightning happen? (p11)

_____

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Wacky Weather (p12-21)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

vapor (p13)	water in its gas form
clump (p14)	to come together into a little group
produce (p15)	make
especially (p18)	extra
extreme (p21)	intense, very

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Volcanoes let out bursts of _____ heat.

When water turns to gas it's called a _____.

Stratus clouds can _____ drizzle.

Morning Glory clouds are _____ spectacular from up above.

Water droplets and dust _____ together to form clouds.

Draw Lines

Draw three lines to match each cloud to what it looks like (p15-16).

stratus cloud	puffy
cumulus cloud	high and wispy
cirrus cloud	flat

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Clouds are made of clumps of water droplets and dust. (p14)		
Cumulus clouds are flat like a sheet. (p15)		
Morning Glory clouds are only found in America. (p18)		
Mammatus clouds look like thunderstorms. (p20)		

Questions to Answer

1. What are clouds made out of, usually? (p14)

_____

2. What are stratus clouds like? (p15)

_____

_____

3. What are cumulus clouds like? (p15)

_____

_____

4. What do lenticular clouds look like? (p17)

_____

5. What do pyrocumulus clouds form over the top of? (p21)

_____

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Wacky Weather (p22-33)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

ominous (p24)	dangerous or scary
reflected (p26)	shown back to you, like a mirror
reverse (p27)	opposite
particles (p33)	tiny bits

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Thunderclouds can look dark and _____.

Double rainbows have two rainbows with colours in _____ order.

Electric _____ cause the northern lights.

Rainbows are caused by _____ light.

Tick One

Fire rainbows are (p31):

- ☐ made of fire
- ☐ a type of rainbow
- ☐ a halo

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Asperitus clouds were discovered in 2019. (p24)		
If you get close to a rainbow, you find a pot of gold. (p27)		
Double rainbows are always easy to see. (p29)		
A fire rainbow is not technically a rainbow. (p31)		
The northern lights make sounds. (p33)		

Questions to Answer

1. What is fog? (p25)

_____

_____

2. How does the moon have to be in the sky to create a moonbow? (p29)

_____

3. What do sun dogs look like? (p32)

_____

_____

4. What colours can the northern lights be? (p33)

_____

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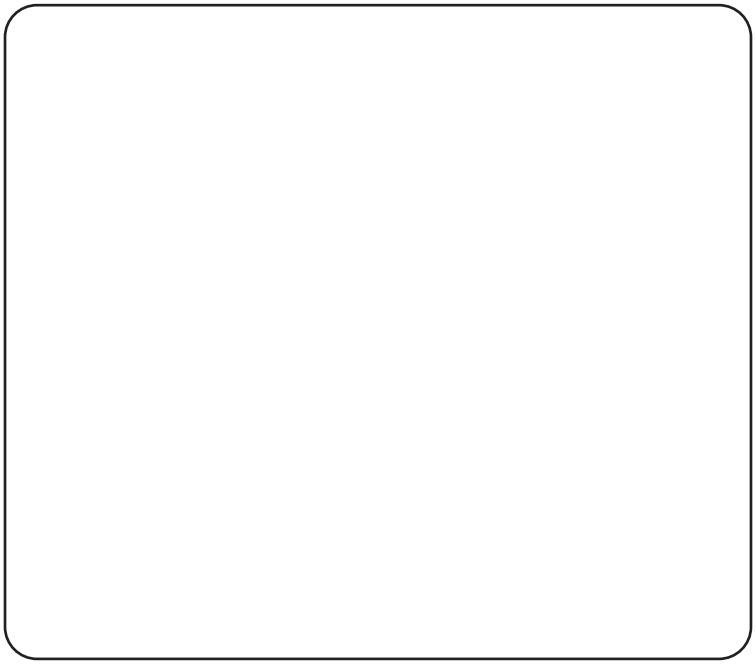
Wacky Weather Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite wacky weather in this book.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

lights	optical	illusion	rainbow	moonbow
stratus	culumus	cirrus	ominous	thunderstorm
lightning	produce	vapor	electricity	clouds

1. Which weather in this book is most weird to you and why?

2. Would you like to be a pilot and see lots of weather in the sky, like Saint Elmo's Fire? Why or why not?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Over the next month, observe the weather and make a record.
- ⚓ Practise your safety pose for a lightning storm.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ What is the craziest weather you've ever seen?

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Crazy True Stories (p1-10)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

barrel (p1)	a large container often made of wood
Napoleon (p4)	emperor of France from 1804-1814 and one of history's great military leaders
imaginary (p9)	not real and exists only in your imagination

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

A very rich person paid £13,000 for one of _____'s teeth.

Annie Taylor and Bobby Leach went over Niagara Falls in a _____.

Another very rich person paid $3000 to buy an _____ friend.

Circle the Word

Circle one word that means the same as 'strange' (p6).

He seems to like to spend his millions on odd things.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Annie Taylor was a teacher. (p1)		
Bobby Leach died from going over Niagara Falls in a barrel. (p3)		
A man paid £13,000 for one of Napoleon's rings. (p4)		
A famous actor owns a pet octopus. (p6-7)		
Someone paid $3000 for an empty box. (p9)		

Questions to Answer

1. Name the two people who went over Niagara Falls in a barrel. (p1-3)

_____

2. Explain how Bobby Leach died. (p3)

_____

3. Name the two crazy things that Bono did because he forgot to pack his hat. (p4-6)

_____

_____

4. Name two of the four odd things that a famous actor bought with his money. (p6-7)

_____

5. What should be inside the box on Page 9? Explain why it is empty.

_____

_____

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Crazy True Stories (p11-20)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

submission (p11)	showing obedience or willing to obey
identify (p11)	to recognise something or someone
emotions (p13)	feelings
familiar (p14)	well-known
disguise (p17)	to cover up something

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Dogs sniff other dogs' bottoms to _____ each other.

Paper heads were used to try and _____ an escape from Alcatraz Jail.

A dog can find out about another dog's _____, when they sniff its bottom.

A left nostril on a dog is used for _____ smells.

Dogs put their tails between their legs as a sign of _____.

Draw Lines

Draw lines to match each nostril on a dog to what it is used for (p14)

left nostril	new smells
right nostril	familiar smells

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Dogs put their tails between their legs when they've done something naughty. (p11)		
Dogs don't have a very good sense of smell. (p14)		
Dental floss was used to help three men escape from prison. (p15)		
The three men used five raincoats to build a raft for their escape. (p17)		
Sulfur is a stinky gas which is actually made from good bugs in your gut. (p20)		

Questions to Answer

1. What do dogs do to find out more about each other? (p11-13)

_____

_____

2. Where is Alcatraz prison? (p15)

_____

3. Why do you think the raft didn't work? (p17)

_____

_____

4. Explain how Whoopi Goldberg got her name? (p19)

_____

_____

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Crazy True Stories (p21-30)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

bunch (p21)	a group
dwellers (p23)	people or animals that live in a particular place
released (p23)	set free
cure (p25)	make someone better/improve their health through treatment
leeches (p25)	a type of worm with suckers, to suck blood
warts (p27)	small, rough bumbs on the skin
distraction (p29)	something that prevents you from concentrating on something else

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Polar bears are cold water _____.

The Vikings were a funny _____ of people.

A cure for a tummy ache is the power of _____.

Drinking tea made out of a snail, was said to _____ chest infections.

_____ were used to suck infection from blood.

A cure for _____ was rubbing half a mouse on the wart.

Polar bears are _____ into the wild by helicopters.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Vikings used antlers to clear out their ear wax. (p21)		
Polar bears are hot weather dwellers. (p23)		
Years ago, to cure a chest infection, people would drink tea made out of a slug. (p25)		
Egyptians believed that putting a toad on your jaw would cure toothache. (p27)		
To cure tummy ache, put a beetle on your tummy. (p29)		

Questions to Answer

1. What did Vikings use for their drinking cups? (p21)

_____

2. What happens to bears in Canada, when they threaten humans? (p23)

_____

_____

Draw Lines

Draw lines to match the crazy cures with the illnesses (p25-29):

chest infection	leeches
infection in the blood	toad on your jaw
toothache	half a mouse
warts	throw a beetle anywhere
tummy ache	tea made with a snail

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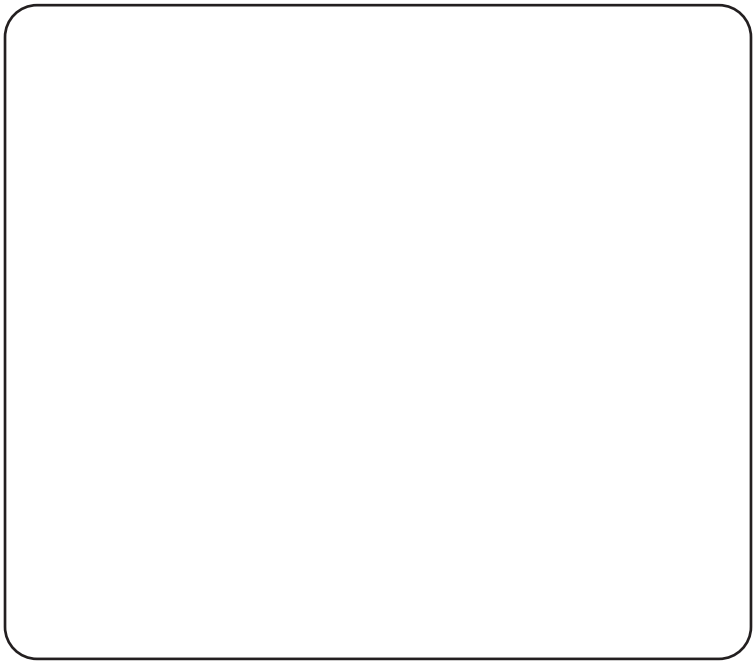
Crazy True Stories Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite crazy true story in this book.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

barrel	Niagara Falls	Bono	hat	crazy
millions	imaginary	submission	identify	Alcatraz
escape	Vikings	polar bear	medicines	cures

1. Which true story seems the most crazy to you? Why?

2. Reread the last six pages. Would you have liked to have been cured by these treatments? Why or why not?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- Can you find out about any more crazy true stories?
- Do you have a crazy true story to share?

Themes to Discuss

- Which crazy true story is your favourite? Why?
- What would you do with your money, if you had millions?

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Flying Machines (p1-10)

Vocabulary Focus

Read these words and then their definitions.

inventors (p7)	people who invent or design something (often as their job)
aviator (p7)	pilot (someone who operates the flying controls of an aircraft)
aerial combat (p9)	the use of aircraft and other flying machines in war
propeller (p10)	a device with blades on the nose of a plane, that helps move the plane forward. It is controlled by the engine

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

The _____ blades helped move a plane forward.

Orville and Wilbur Wright were both _____ of the first plane.

Henry Wynmalen was an early _____.

When guns were attached to planes, this was the start of _____.

Circle the Word

Circle one word that means the same as 'broke' or 'damaged'. (p2)

All they cracked were bones and their pride.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
It was easy to design a flying machine that worked. (p1)		
There are usually about 8000 airliners in the sky around the world at any time. (p3)		
The Wright Flyer was made by three brothers. (p5)		
Henry Wynmalen became bored of flying when crashing became rare. (p7)		
The first guns were attached to airplanes in 1944. (p9)		

Questions to answer

1. Find and copy two words from the first paragraph that explain why birds and insects are able to fly. (p1)

They have _____ _____.

2. Approximately, how many people are in the eight thousand airliners in the sky around the world at any time? (p3)

_____

3. What was the name of the first ever powered airplane? (p5)

_____

4. The book author's father knew an early aviator. What was his name? (p7)

_____

5. How did airplanes change when Europe went to war in 1914? (p9-10)

_____

_____

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Flying Machines (p11-20)

Vocabulary Focus

Read these words and then their definitions.

reliable (p11)	something or someone that can be trusted
commercial (p14)	to make money from something
bankrupt (p15)	when a person or company loses all their money
pressure (p17)	a physical force exerted on or against an object
hydrogen airship (p19)	airship that is able to fly because the hydrogen gas in the balloon is lighter than air

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Graf Zeppelin was the biggest _____ _____.

The company went _____ in just four months! They had no more money left!

The first flying boat plane had a problem with its engine on the first _____ flight.

The aircrafts in World War One were not very _____ and this meant it wasn't very safe if you were a pilot.

The air _____ was lower over the top of the curved wing than underneath it.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Pilots in World War One had parachutes for safety. (p12)		
The first plane to carry passengers was launched in America. (p13)		
People love flying because they travel much quicker. (p16)		
The Wrights tested over 300 different wing shapes. (p18)		
The Graf Zeppelin flew over a million miles. (p20)		

Questions to answer

1. Why was being a pilot in World War One a dangerous job? (p11-12)

_____

_____

2. Why do you think the flying boat plane didn't need a runway? (p13)

_____

_____

3. Find and copy one word which means a person who flies on a plane. (p13)

_____

4. What are wind tunnels used for? (p17-18).

_____

_____

5. What was the name of the biggest hydrogen airship? (p19)

_____

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Flying Machines (p21-33)

Vocabulary Focus

Read these words and then their definitions.

docking (p21)	the act of bringing a plane or boat into a dock where it will be secured on land
destruction (p25)	the action of causing so much damage that it no longer exists or cannot be repaired
raid (p26)	activities involved in war or conflict
aviation (p26)	the flying or operating of an aircraft
successful (p27)	something that is working well
retired (p30)	stopped working, by choice
transport (p31)	to move something
efficient (p32)	able to work well without making too much waste

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

The Antonov Dream was used to _____ space shuttles. But it was not very _____ with fuel.

An example of a _____ aircraft is the British Comet. However, it was later _____ due to splitting in two sometimes!

The Hindenburg blew up while it was _____.

The huge fires and _____ caused by the bombing _____ in Dresden meant it was a dark day for people involved in _____.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The Dornier flying boat could carry 169 people. (p23)		
The attack on Dresden started fires across the city. (p26)		
The Airbus A380 had three floors of seating. (p29)		
The seats on the Concorde were a bit tight. (p29-30)		

Questions to answer

1. What was the name of the hydrogen airship that exploded when docking? (p21)

_____

2. Find and copy two words to explain how airplanes were improving. (p23)

_____

3. How many engines did the Dornier flying boat need? (p24)

_____

4. What strange thing kept happening to the British plane called the Comet? (p27-28)

_____

_____

5. How fast can the Concorde fly? (p29)

_____

6. Find and copy the name of the biggest aircraft ever. (p31)

_____

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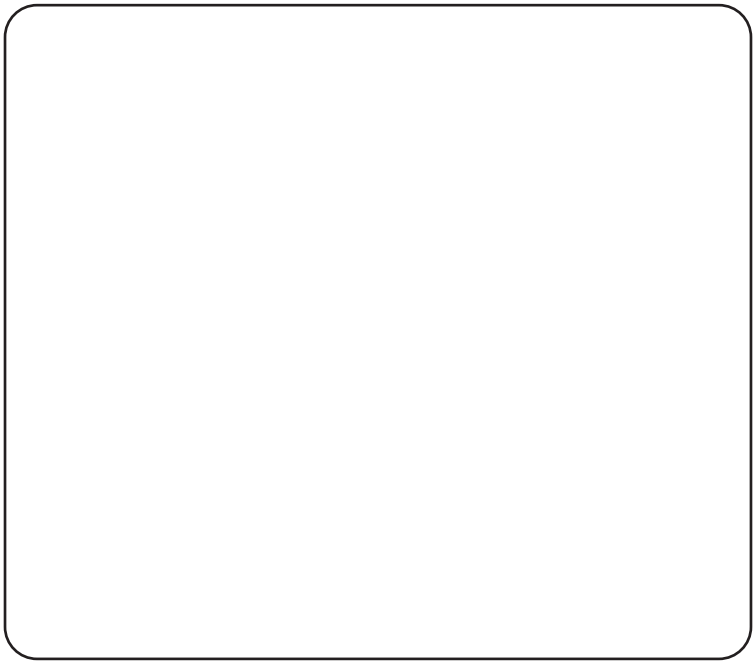
Flying Machines Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite flying machine from this book.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

airliners	passengers	Wright Flyer	inventors	aerial combat
propeller	parachutes	commercial	bankrupt	designed
curved wings	Graf Zeppelin	Hindenburg	Comet	Concorde

1. What are your top five fascinating facts from reading this book?

2. Which would you rather fly in from this book and why: a flying boat or a hydrogen airship?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Make your own paper airplane.
- ⚓ Draw and label your very own design for the perfect flying machine. What would you include? Be as crazy and adventurous as possible!

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ Would you like to be able to fly like a bird?
- ⚓ Where would you go? Why?

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Secret Spy Gadgets (p1-10)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

device (p1)	a machine of some kind
gadgets (p1)	tools
honour (p4)	high public respect
explosive (p7)	something that blows up
classic (p9)	one of the best
pleasant (p9)	nice

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Many spy weapons are not very _____.

The Germans tried to put an _____ into chocolate.

_____ and a _____ are tools used by a spy.

Medals of _____ were given to pigeons in Word War I.

Poison is a _____ spy weapon.

Circle the Word

Circle one word that means "turned into goo". (p9-10)

As it melted, it sent poison into the blood of an enemy.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Spies only use low-tech gadgets. (p1)		
Pigeons survived battle 95% of the time. (p4)		
The lipstick pistol had a knife hidden inside it. (p5)		
Prime Minister Winston Churchill didn't like most food. (p7-8)		
The umbrella dart gun had a poison tip. (p9)		

Questions to Answer

1. What are some examples of types of spy gadgets? (p1)

_____

_____

2. What did the pigeon camera do? (p3)

_____

_____

3. What was the hidden weapon inside the lipstick pistol? (p5)

_____

4. Did the candy bomb plan work? (p7-8)

_____

5. What did the umbrella dart gun release? (p9)

_____

_____

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Secret Spy Gadgets (p11-20)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

audio (p11)	sound
scene (p13)	place where something happens
unmanned (p17)	self-driving
hover (p17)	stay in one place in the air
drone (p18)	a flying robot or remote-control device
locate (p20)	find
rubble (p20)	bits of broken rock or brick, after a building falls down

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Roach drones can _____ people lost in _____.

You take a photo by pointing the camera towards the _____.

Bumblebees do not usually _____ in one place.

The dragonfly _____ was one of the smallest _____ flying vehicles.

Radios can record _____, which means they record the sounds only.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Shoe heel radios were inserted into the enemy's coat. (p11-12)		
Spies wearing a coat camera had a clicker hidden in their shoe. (p13)		
You needed a microscope to read a microdot's information. (p16)		
The first version of the dragonfly drone was a bumblebee. (p17)		
The robot cockroach cannot fit in tiny spaces. (p19)		

Questions to Answer

1. What could the shoe heel radio do? (p11)

_____

2. Was the coat camera for listening to people or taking pictures of people? (p13)

_____

3. How small could the microdot camera shrink an image? (p15)

_____

4. What could the dragonfly drone not handle? (p18)

_____

5. What can the robot cockroach be used for? (p19-20)

_____

_____

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Secret Spy Gadgets (p21-30)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

evidence (p21)	proof that something is true
nuclear (p22)	a type of energy
chemical (p22)	a chemical is something with certain properties or things about it that help us to identify it; some chemicals are found in nature, while others are made by people.
detectors (p23)	a tool that senses or finds something
transmitter (p25)	a tool that sends information
homing device (p25)	a tool that guides you somewhere
intel (p27)	information
rotated (p28)	turned around

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Charlie the Robot Fish gathers _____ from the water. It looks for signs of _____ or _____ activity.

Spies _____ the Letter Removal Device to make the letter curl around it.

Spies sent _____ through the poo radio.

A _____ is a device that sends information.

The Dog Doo Transmitter was a _____ that showed the location of something.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Charlie the Robot Fish blows bubbles underwater. (p21)		
Spies can hide cameras in air fresheners. (p23)		
The Dog Doo Transmitter looks like a dog. (p25)		
The Letter Removal Device steals letters without opening the envelope. (p27)		

Questions to Answer

1. What does Charlie the Robot Fish do? (p21-22)

_____

_____

2. Find the word for when spies look all around the room for hidden cameras. (p23)

_____

3. Why is the Dog Doo Transmitter safe from the enemy messing with it? (p26)

_____

_____

4. What was the Letter Removal Device used for? (p27-28)

_____

_____

5. Turn to page 29 and find another word on this page for "tool".

_____

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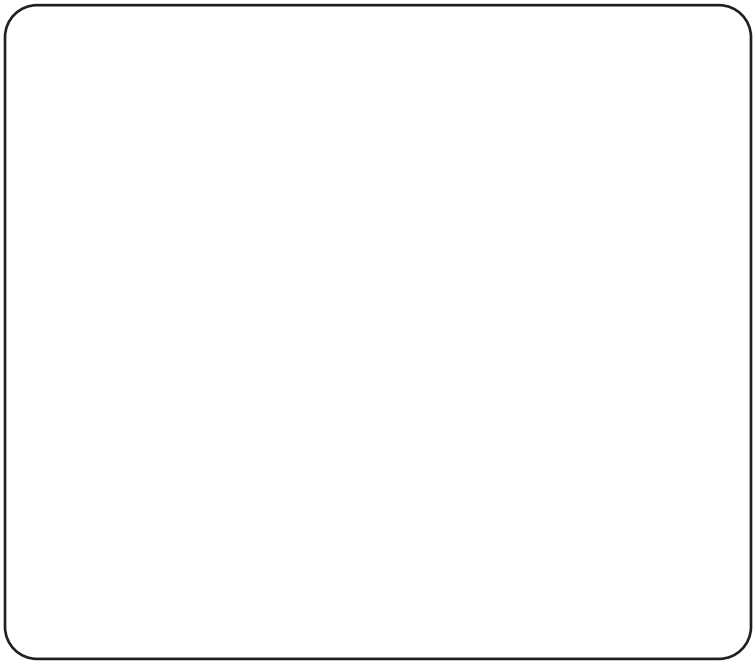
Secret Spy Gadgets Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite spy tool in this book.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

spies	gadgets	weapon	poison	steal
information	drone	robot	cameras	hidden
record	audio	umbrella	lipstick	chocolate

1. Pretend you are a spy. Write a secret letter to headquarters describing your most recent mission. What did you do? Did you use any spy tools?

2. Invent your own spy tool. What would it look like? What would it do?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- Draw a picture of your invented spy tool.
- Name it, then label all the different parts of it.

Themes to Discuss

- What spy gadget would you invent?
- Would you want to be a spy? Why or why not?

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Accidental Inventions (p1-12)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

vendors (p3)	people or companies that sell something
valuable (p5)	worth a lot
insured (p5)	covered by an insurance company, which means that if something bad happens to the thing that is insured, then the company pays you money
patients (p7)	sick people
ingredient (p9)	part of a food recipe
morsels (p11)	little bits of food

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Corn flakes are tasty little _____.

Boiled wheat was an _____ in Mr Kellogg's recipe.

An ice cream tester's tongue was very _____ . He _____ it for one million dollars.

_____ at the World Fair sold stuff.

Mr Kellogg treated _____ at the hospital.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The ice cream stand was hardly selling anything. (p1)		
They rolled up a thin waffle to make a cone. (p3)		
The ice cream tester used to test sixty ice creams per day. (p5)		
Mr Kellogg ran a grocery store. (p7)		
The hospital kitchen was always so cold. (p8)		
Mr Kellogg switched from wheat to corn for his flakes. (p11)		

Questions to Answer

1. Which vendor was hardly selling anything? (p1-2)

_____

2. How many cones can a machine make in 24 hours? (p4)

_____

3. How many dollars was the ice cream tester's tongue insured for? (p5)

_____

4. What year did Mr Kellogg run a hospital? (p7)

_____

5. What happened to the boiled wheat dough overnight? (p9)

_____

6. What else did Mr Kellogg invent? (p11-12)

_____

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Accidental Inventions (p13-22)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

lab (p13)	a place where science experiments are done
fascinated (p15)	strongly interested (in something)
snagged (p20)	to get a bit stuck on something
potential (p21)	having what it takes to become something great

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Cockleburs showed great _____ for an invention to stick stuff together.

Scientists do experiments in the _____.

The dog's fur was _____ on a cocklebur.

Americans were _____ by the idea of a microwave oven.

Tick One

Why were cockleburs in a dog's fur so amazing?

- ☐ they would help dogs stay warm
- ☐ they showed that things could stick without glue
- ☐ they were made out of plastic

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Percy Spencer was working on the magnetron during World War 1. (p13)		
Energy waves from a magnetron are not hot. (p14)		
The magnetron machine he invented was a microwave. (p17)		
The man and dog were hiking in the Alps. (p19)		

Questions to Answer

1. What happened to Percy's chocolate bar? (p13-14)

_____

2. What happened to the kernels of corn? (p15)

_____

3. How much did the first microwave oven weigh? (p17)

_____

4. What got stuck in the dog's fur? (p19-20)

_____

5. What does the phrase "he cracked it" tell us on page 21?

_____

_____

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Accidental Inventions (p23-32)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

pharmacist (p23)	someone who makes medicines
cure (p23)	a fix for pain or illness
caffeine (p24)	a natural thing inside some plants that gives you energy
chef (p29)	a cook

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

_____ can make your headaches feel better.

Someone who makes medicines is called a _____.

The person who invented crisps was a _____ in New York.

Pharmacists try to _____ people with medicines.

Sequencing

Turn to pages 29 - 31. Number the sentences below to show the order they happen in the story.

The customer loved the crunchy potatoes. ☐

The customer hated the mushy potatoes. ☐

He sliced potatoes up very thin. ☐

Chef Crum got mad and wanted revenge. ☐

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Coca-Cola helped people's headaches. (p24)		
20 years later, everyone disliked Coca-Cola. (p25)		
Nowadays, ice lollies are made out of Coke. (p28)		
Chef Crum's guest did not like his mushy potatoes. (p29)		
Chef Crum cut his potatoes paper thin. (p30)		

Questions to Answer

1. What got knocked into the coca-cola mixture? (p23)

_____

2. What flavour soda did the boy want to make on his porch? (p25)

_____

3. What happened to the boy's soda mixture? (p26-27)

_____

_____

4. Where did Chef Crum work? (p29)

_____

5. What is another word for Chef Crum's invention, other than "chips"? (p32)

_____

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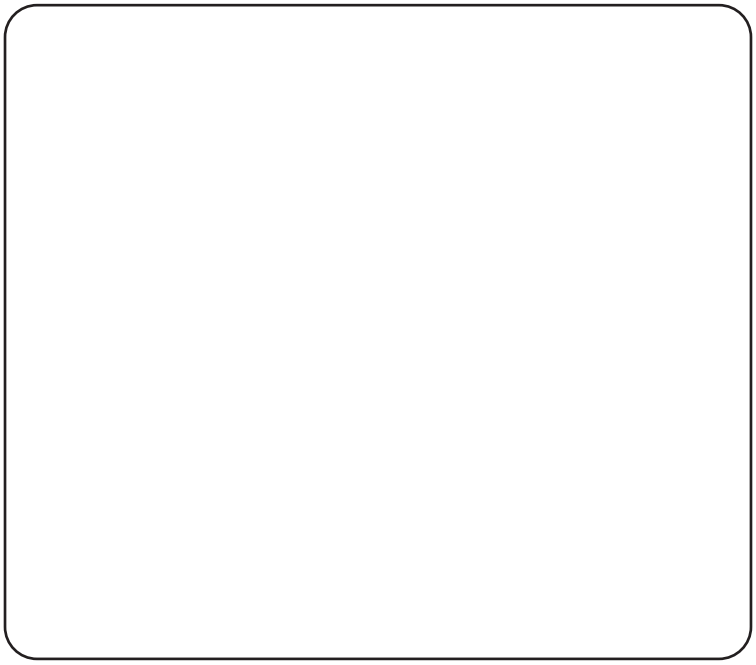
Accidental Inventions Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite invention in this book.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

vendors	waffle	valuable	Mr Kellog	patients
experimenting	accidentally	invented	magnetron	energy waves
microscope	velcro	mixture	chef	revenge

1. Which is your favourite accidental invention? Why?
2. Describe an invention you would like to make. What would it do?
3. What would it be made out of?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Draw a picture of your invention.
- ⚓ Label its parts.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ Can you think of a problem in your life that you need an invention for?

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Dinosaur Kingdom (p1-11)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

identified (p1)	to have recognised and named something
extinct (p3)	no longer exist
evolved (p3)	changed over time
similarities (p3)	things that are the same when comparing
asteroid impact (p7)	small, rocky objects that enter the atmosphere
carnivores (p9)	meat-eating animals
herbivores (p9)	plant-eating animals

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Birds _____ from dinosaurs.

Most dinosaurs were plant-eating _____.

Dino fossils were _____ in 1842.

There are _____ between flying dinosaurs and birds.

Although dinosaurs are now _____, they live on in the form of birds.

Scientists believe that a huge _____ changed our planet.

_____ then didn't have enough meat to survive.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The word ‘dinosaur’ means ‘terrible lizard’. (p1)		
Dinosaurs evolved from birds. (p3)		
Millions of years ago, dinosaurs were the only animals on the planet. (p5)		
Carnivores became extinct because there weren’t enough plants for them to eat. (p9)		
Most dinosaurs ate plants. (p11)		

Questions to Answer

1. Explain how dinosaurs still live on today. (p3)

_____

2. Name three other animals that were around at the same time as dinosaurs. (p5)

_____

3. How do scientists believe dinosaurs became extinct? (p7)

_____

_____

4. Explain how the dinosaurs who ate plants became extinct. (p7)

_____

_____

5. Explain how the dinosaurs who ate meat became extinct. (p7-9)

_____

_____

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Dinosaur Kingdom (p12-22)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

constantly (p13)	all the time
defensive (p16)	protective
sheer (p16)	very great
predator (p19)	an animal that kills or eats other animals

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Most herbivores had special _____ weapons.

One of their special weapons was their _____ size.

Herbivores ate plants _____ to survive.

A hard shell was difficult for the teeth of a _____ to sink into.

Match-Up

Match the dinosaur with its defensive weapon.

Brachiosaurus	spikes
Stegosaurus	sheer size
Ankylosaurus	pointy horns
Triceratops	hard-shell back

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
A brachiosaurus is a plant eater. (p13)		
Powerful tails and necks helped herbivores survive. (p16)		
A stegosaurus had pointy horns. (p17)		
Triceratops had spikes. (p17)		
Most dinosaurs had big holes in their skulls. (p21)		

Questions to Answer

1. How tall was a brachiosaurus? (p14-15)

_____

2. Find and copy a word used to describe the tail of a herbivore dinosaur. (p16)

_____

3. Describe two ways in which an ankylosaurus protected itself. (p19)

_____

_____

_____

4. What did the holes in dinosaur skulls do? (p21-22)

_____

_____

5. Which animal nowadays has holes in its skull like dinosaurs did? (p22)

_____

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Dinosaur Kingdom (p23-35)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

specialists (p23)	experts
sustain (p28)	to keep up or keep going
mammals (p29)	a name given to a group of warm-blooded animals with backbones. They have hair/fur and feed their young milk.
critical (p32)	very important
cell (p34)	the smallest, basic unit of life
grooves (p34)	long, narrow dents in something
pigment (p34)	natural colour found in nature

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Dinosaurs probably ate small _____ in a single bite.

_____ are trying to find the biggest meat-eating dinosaur that existed.

Scientists have recently found _____ clues to explain dinosaur colours.

The spinosaurus must have eaten lots of fish to _____ its huge size.

Scientists have studied fossils and found little _____ blobs in the _____ of the fossils.

The cells carried _____, which creates colour.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The T-Rex has big muscles and a strong jaw. (p25)		
The spinosaurus was a herbivore. (p27)		
Dinosaurs ate small mammals. (p29)		
We don't know for certain the colours of dinosaurs. (p30)		
Scientists have studied fossils under microscopes to find clues. (p33-34)		

Questions to Answer

1. Describe the size of a T-Rex. (p23-25)

_____

2. What seemed funny about a T-Rex? (p25)

_____

3. How did most meat-eating dinosaurs walk? (p28)

_____

_____

4. Name and describe two clues that scientists have used to try and find out about the colours of dinosaurs. (p32-34)

_____

_____

_____

_____

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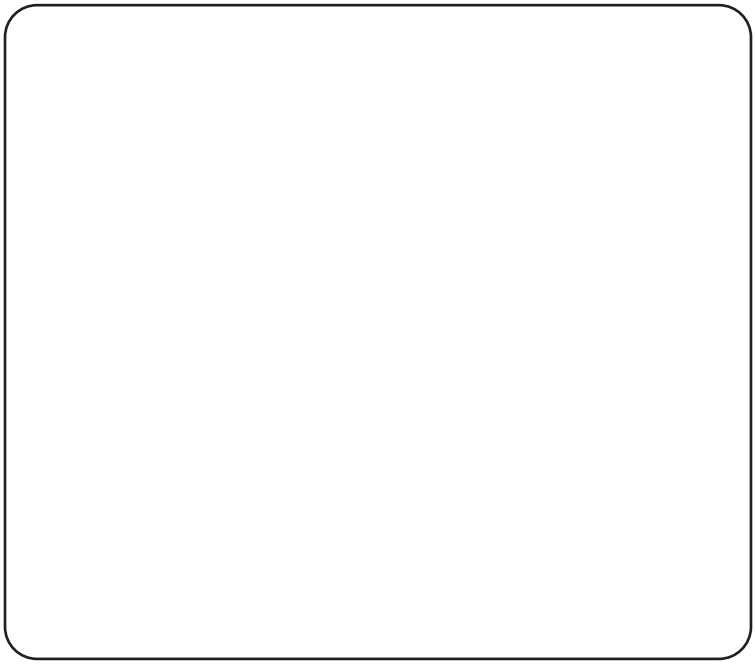
Dinosaur Kingdom Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about what happened when dinosaurs went extinct.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

defensive	dinosaur	herbivore	carnivore
pigment	cells	critical	predator
constantly	extinct	powerful	sustain

1. Write about your favourite dinosaur from this book or from your own knowledge.

2. What colours do you think dinosaurs came in? Designs (spotted etc.)?

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Draw a picture of your colourful dinosaur.
- ⚓ Label its parts, including any defensive weapons it has.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ Would you like to live in dinosaur times? Why or why not?

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Crazier True Stories (p1-15)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

vanished (p1)	disappeared
evaporated (p1)	turned into a gas
tripod (p2)	a stand with 3 legs that you put a camera on
expand (p7)	grow
vibrate (p7)	move quickly back and forth
crucial (p7)	important
sluggish (p9)	slow

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

You can put a camera on a _____ to keep it steady.

Chemicals _____ into the air, which meant you couldn't see them any more… they _____ from sight.

Your brain feels slow and _____ if you don't eat enough. Healthy eating is _____ for your brain.

Lightning makes air _____ and _____, which causes thunder.

Fill in the Chart

Fill in the chart with how many years we spend doing each thing:

Kissing _____	Eating _____	In School _____	Sleeping _____
In traffic _____	On Toilet _____	Cleaning _____	

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The first camera images were in "negative". (p1)		
Early cameras were tiny. (p2)		
People didn't smile in early photos. (p4)		
Lightning heats the air around it five times hotter than the sun's surface. (p5)		
Thunder causes lightning. (p7)		
One in three creatures on the planet is a beetle. (p13)		

Questions to Answer

1. How many slices of toast could one lightning bolt make? (p5)

_____

2. How fast can information in your brain travel? (p9)

_____

3. What are the two reasons beetles have been so successful? (p13-14)

_____

_____

_____

4. What are beetles used to make? (p14)

_____

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Crazier True Stories (p16-26)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

protein (p16)	a part of food that helps make you strong
aorta (p21)	part of you that carries blood around your body
deaf (p26)	not able to hear

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Roosters have earplugs so they don't go _____ from their own noises.

Humans could crawl through a whale's _____.

Insects contain good _____ for your diet.

Tick Two

Which two facts are true about rats?

- ☐ rats can swim for four days without a break
- ☐ rats can fit through holes the size of a coin
- ☐ rats spend hours grooming each other
- ☐ rats are not very clean at all

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Insect wings can get stuck in your teeth. (p17)		
You can hear a blue whale's heart beating two miles away. (p19)		
Blue whale hearts beat once per minute. (p21)		
A rat can swim for 5 hours without a break. (p23)		
Rats can fit through holes the size of a coin. (p23)		

Questions to Answer

1. What happens when you remove the head of a cricket? (p16-17)

_____

_____

2. How much can a blue whale heart weigh? (p19)

_____

3. What is the size of a blue whale heart? (p19)

_____

4. How fast does a human heart beat? (p21)

_____

5. Which rooster gets to crow first? (p26)

_____

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Crazier True Stories (p27-40)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

dung (p28)	poo
metabolism (p29)	chemical reaction in our body that changes food into energy
lathered (p31)	made into a bubbly mixture
prescribed (p31)	told patients to do something
properties (p33)	parts

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Sloths have a slow _____ so only poo once a week.

Wombat _____ is shaped like a cube.

Some poo has antibiotic _____, but also icky stuff.

Doctors _____ odd cures to their patients.

Romans _____ up mouse brains for toothpaste.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
African elephants can do daily poos the size of a male panda. (p28)		
Rabbits can poo 500 times a day. (p29)		
You can't write a letter to a pirate in Australia. (p36)		
Paper money in Thailand has animals on it. (p39)		

Questions to Answer

1. How many pounds does an African elephant poo a day? (p28)

_____

2. What did the Romans sometimes use to brush their teeth? (p31)

_____

3. What did the Egyptians sometimes use to heal a wound? (p31)

_____

Match-Up

Match the law to its country:

Netherlands	no kissing water fountain spouts
Switzerland	no leaving the toilet unflushed
Italy	no owning just one guinea pig
Singapore	no locking burglars in toilets

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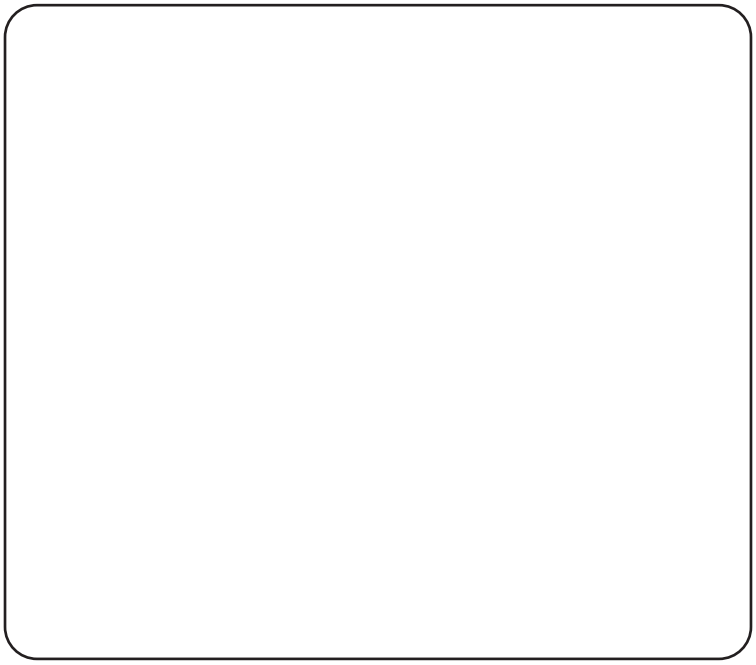
Crazier True Stories Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about your favourite crazier true story.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

invented	tripod	lightning	vibrate	brain
beetles	scientists	blue whale	aorta	roosters
dung	metabolism	prescribed	law	illegal

1. Which crazy law would you be most likely to break and why?

2. What crazy laws would you like to see? Make a list.

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Design a poster advertising your new laws.
- ⚓ Draw a picture of a blue whale and write some fascinating facts about this animal.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ Which crazier true story is your favourite? Why?

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Gruesome Egyptians (p1-11)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

ancient (p1)	very old
civilisation (p1)	society or culture
preserved (p2)	able to last
canopic (p5)	the name for the jars that stored guts
elaborate (p11)	fancy, detailed

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

_____ Egyptians are known for making mummies.

They painted _____ masks on the top of coffins.

They _____ guts in special jars called _____ jars.

But they were an amazing _____ with lots of culture and inventions.

Sequencing

Put the mummifying steps in the right order by writing the correct number next to each one.

Remove the brain and the guts. ☐

Wash the body with wine. ☐

Dry out the body. ☐

Wrap the body with cloth. ☐

Stuff the body with spices. ☐

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Ancient Egypt was built on the Amazon River. (p1)		
They mummified people to preserve the body. (p1-2)		
The first step to make a mummy was to pull out the brain. (p4)		
They stored the brain in a special jar. (p5)		
They left the heart inside the body. (p8)		
They gave the body a salt bath. (p9)		

Questions to Answer

1. Find and copy the name of the river that Egypt is built on. (p1)

_____

2. What was the first step in making a mummy? (p4)

_____

3. How did they get the brains out? (p4)

_____

4. What was on top of the canopic jars? (p5)

_____

5. What would weighing the heart show, after death? (p8)

_____

6. Find a word on this page that is a synonym for 'covered'. (p9)

_____

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Gruesome Egyptians (p12-23)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

recited (p13)	read aloud or say from memory
quarry (p19)	a deep pit where stones are dug up for use

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

You could pick a spell to be _____ when you died.

Stones from the pyramid were gotten from a _____.

Circle the Phrase

Circle the phrase that roughly means "to dig up". (p19)

First the workers had to chip out stone blocks from a quarry.

Circle the Phrase

Circle the phrase that means the same as "look". (p19)

They had to watch out for scorpions too.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Egyptian spell books are still preserved today. (p14)		
Pyramids were tombs for Egyptian kings. (p17)		
It took two years to build one pyramid. (p17)		
Building a pyramid was comfortable work. (p19-20)		
Eating ground up mummies cured illness. (p21-23)		

Questions to Answer

1. What is the name of the ancient Egyptian written language? (p14)

_____

2. How many workers could it take to build one pyramid? (p17)

_____

3. Name three things that were buried alongside the pharoahs? (p17)

_____

_____

4. What were some things in the desert that were dangerous for workers? (p19-20)

_____

_____

_____

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Gruesome Egyptians (p24-35)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

self-obsessed (p24)	only interested in yourself
slathered (p25)	laid on thickly
producing (p27)	having or making
strategy (p29)	plan
reigns (p29)	time when you are in power as a king or queen
trampled (p30)	stomped on
foes (p30)	enemies
honouring (p33)	showing respect to
hollow out (p35)	make a hole in the middle of something

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Dung beetles _____ little holes in their poo balls.

Pharoahs were _____ and often selfish.

King Pepy _____ honey on his servant.

King Tut's special sandals made him feel like he _____ his _____.

King Ramses was obsessed with _____ lots of children. His _____ was to do that so his enemies couldn't find a bride! He had one of the longest _____, perhaps as a result.

The Egyptians spent energy _____ their kings and other special things.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Pharaohs made carvings in the caves where they lived. (p24)		
Ramses the Second had over 100 children. (p27)		
Ramses the Second had one of the longest reigns in Egypt's history. (p29)		
Egyptians believed the moon's spirit lived in dung beetles. (p33)		
Dung beetles lay their eggs in the middle of their poo balls. (p35)		

Question to Answer

1. Explain what two things an Egyptian King had to do after every 30 years of rule. (p31)

_____

_____

Match-Up

Match the King with their obsessions:

King Pepy the Second	marrying princesses
King Ramses the Second	beating down his enemies
King Tut	health

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Gruesome Egyptians (p36-44)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

sacred (p36)	holy
mourning (p36)	sadness when someone dies
incredibly (p42)	very
intelligent (p42)	bright and clever

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Cats were considered to be _____ animals.

The Egyptians were inventive and _____.

Shaving eyebrows off was a sign of _____ when a cat died.

It is _____ hot in Egypt.

Tick Two

Ancient Egyptians… (p42-43)

- ☐ came from England
- ☐ invented the first pens
- ☐ invented many of the first ever games
- ☐ thought that dogs were holy
- ☐ buried their kings at sea

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
The Egyptians shaved their arms as a mourning sign. (p36)		
Cats could be buried alongside mummified mice. (p38)		
Egyptians often wore wigs. (p39)		
Men sometimes wore makeup. (p41)		
Egyptians invented computers. (p42)		

Question to Answer

1. What was the punishment for killing a cat? (p38)

_____

_____

2. What were their wigs made out of? (p39-40)

_____

3. Name two of the things that the Egyptians invented. (p42)

_____

_____

4. What was their toothpaste made out of? (p42)

_____

_____

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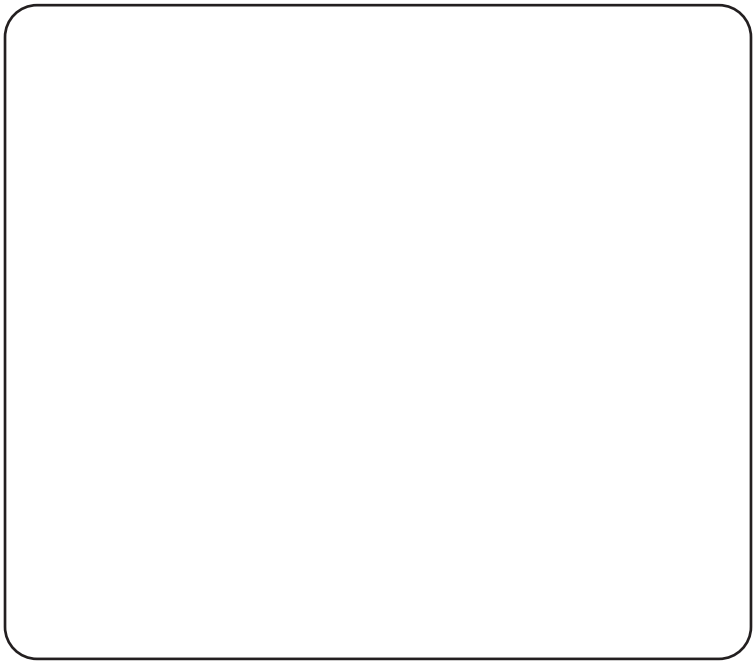
Gruesome Egyptians Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about the Egyptians.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

Ancient Egypt	mummies	canopic jars	afterlife	hieroglyphics
Pharoahs	pyramids	self-obsessed	King Pepy	King Ramses
King Tut	dung beetles	Egyptians	inventive	intelligent

1. Write about your favourite facts from this book.

2. Write a letter, comparing your life now with life in Egyptian times.

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Make a list of the similarities and differences between your life and life in Egyptian times.
- ⚓ Draw a picture of your favourite Egyptian King and write some facts about this King.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ What do you think of when you hear the word "Egyptian"?
- ⚓ Do you think of the Egyptians as gross or amazing?

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Wild Wolves (p1-16)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

domestic (p3)	relating to your family or home
adapted (p3)	changed to fit a new purpose or situation
remote (p4)	far away from people
signal (p5)	something that is used to indicate, warn, direct or command something or someone
phases (p9)	stages
myth (p9)	a well-known story that is made up/not true
contagious (p10)	something that can be passed on easily from one person/animal to another
nocturnal (p11)	awake and active at night

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Wolves are wild animals that prefer areas which are _____.

Dogs are now _____ animals and can live close to humans because they have _____ over time to become less wild.

A wolf's howl is used as a _____ for other wolves.

People thought that the howls were linked to the _____ of the moon. But it was just a _____.

Howling is _____.

Wolves hunt more in the evening hours, which means they are _____.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Dogs have adapted so that they can live close to humans. (p3)		
Wolves are wild animals who love being close to humans. (p4)		
Wolves tilt their heads down towards the ground to howl. (p9)		
Wolves are awake at night and hunt for their food. (p11)		
After 8 weeks, wolf pups are ready to join the wolf pack and go hunting for food. (p15)		

Questions to Answer

1. What does the term 'domesticated' mean? (p3)

_____

2. Why do wolves prefer remote areas? (p4)

_____

_____

3. How are dogs and wolves alike? (p5)

_____

4. How many wolves can live in a pack? (p11)

_____

5. What happens when a wolf pup licks around the mouth of an adult wolf? (p15)

_____

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Wild Wolves (p17-36)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

carnivores (p17)	animals that eat meat
grazing (p19)	feeding on grass, like sheep and cattle
morsels (p19)	a small piece of amount of food
alpha (p27)	the most highest-ranking/important animal in the pack
omega (p28)	the lowest-ranking/least important animal in the pack
indirectly (p30)	not obvious or direct
re-introduced (p31)	introduced something or someone again
vegetation (p35)	plants and trees in a specific area

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Deer, elk and moose are all types of _____ animals.

The parents in the pack are the _____ animals. The _____ is the lowest-ranked wolf who will probably be forced to leave.

Wolves often _____ give life to many other creatures by keeping other animal populations in check.

In 1995, the gray wolf was _____ into the wild in Yellowstone Park.

The _____ of Yellowstone disappeared because of the Elk.

Wolves are _____ that will eat all sorts of meaty _____.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Wolves feed on animals that they catch. (p19)		
The fastest speed a wolf can sprint is 83 miles per hour. (p22)		
Once a catch is made, wolves give food to their pups first. (p27)		
You will always find wolves in a pack. (p27-28)		
Even though wolves are predators, they actually give life to many other creatures. (p32-36)		

Questions to Answer

1. Give three examples of animals that wolves like to eat. (p21)

_____

2. Why do wolves often hunt the weakest animal in a herd? (p23-24) Why is this a good thing?

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. Explain the difference between an alpha wolf and an omega wolf (p27-28)

_____

4. Where is Yellowstone National Park? (p31)

_____

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Wild Wolves (p37-52)

Vocabulary

Read these words and then their definitions.

rodent (p39)	small, furry mammals whose teeth never stop growing
scavengers (p47)	a person or animal that gathers and eats things left by others, i.e. leftovers
trophic cascade (p49)	the dramatic changes to an ecosystem when the top predator is suppressed or reintroduced
suppressed (p49)	stopped
ecosystem (p49)	an area where plants, animals and other organisms work and live together

Fill in the Blanks

Now, add the words to the empty spaces in the sentences below:

Bears are _____.

Mice, rats, squirrels and beavers are all part of the _____ family.

Dramatic changes happen to an _____ when a top predator is _____ or re-introduced.

A _____ happened in Yellowstone National Park when they re-introduced the gray wolf.

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True or False?

Statement	True	False
Beavers need trees. (p41)		
Beavers are not very good at building dams. (p41)		
The boreal chorus frog is very small but can make a loud noise. (p45)		
Bears like to eat berries. (p47)		
When the wolves were re-introduced to Yellowstone, all the other animals and plants died or disappeared. (p51)		

Question to Answer

1. Give two reasons why beavers need trees. (pgs 41)

_____

_____

2. Explain how beavers help other animals. (pgs 41-43)

_____

_____

3. Give two facts about bears. (pgs 45-47)

_____

_____

4. "Long live the wolf!"" - what do you think the author means by this? (p51)

_____

_____

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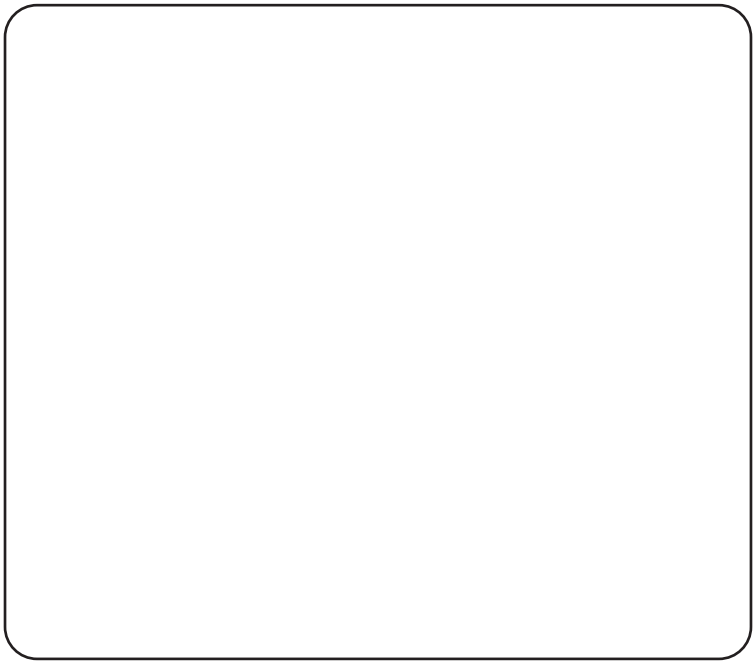
Wild Wolves Extension Activities

Fact File

Create a fact file about wolves.



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Vocabulary Writing Prompts

Using the words below, write your answers to the following question prompts on a separate piece of paper.

wolves	domestic	wild	remote	howl
moon	nocturnal	packs	bison	carnivores
disease	alpha	omega	vegetation	re-introduced

1. Write about your favourite facts from this book.

2. Write some fasctinating facts about another animal that you know lots of information about.

Learning in Action

Try the following activities as a class or on your own.

- ⚓ Draw a picture and label your picture to show what happened at Yellowstone National Park when the gray wolf was re-introduced.
- ⚓ Share with your partner what you have learnt from reading this book.

Themes to Discuss

- ⚓ Wolves are fascinating wild creatures. Agree or disagree?
- ⚓ Re-introducing animals into certain areas is a good idea. Agree or disagree?

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