



guided reading books

Answers – Silver

Level 23 Books

Saving the Hens

1. Mr Grant did not leave the house because his legs were shaky.
2. The henhouse had wheels so it could be moved easily.
3. The children wrote a plan to show the principal that it included a place to keep the hens, a student roster for feeding the hens and a roster for letting the hens out to scratch for food.
4. Mr Grant used a walking stick because his legs weren't very strong.
5. Sami helped steady Mr Grant because he had trouble walking.
6. The retirement village did not allow hens as pets, so Mr Grant couldn't take his hens with him.
7. Answers will vary. (It was a funny question; he shouldn't have been daydreaming.)
8. Answers will vary. (The children could learn a lot about birds from the hens; Ms Broome liked hens.)
9. Answers will vary. (It was quiet; there was lots of space to scratch for insects and grubs.)
10. A retirement village is a place where elderly people live so they can be looked after.
11. Rats and mice might be attracted to the hens' food.
12. Ms Broome had to check with the principal before the students could have the hens because the hens were a big responsibility.

All About Sharks

1. Sharks can bend easily when they swim because their skeletons are made of cartilage instead of bone.
2. A group of sharks is called a school.
3. A shark's skin colour allows it to blend in to the surrounding water, which helps it as a predator because prey can't easily see it.
4. Answers will vary. (They have lots of teeth; they are very large and fast.)
5. A Wobbegong Shark eats food found close to the sea floor, such as fish, crayfish, crabs and octopuses.
6. Whale Sharks have to swim very far to find enough food because they are enormous and their food is very small.
7. The sea waters near Central America are so warm because they are close to the Equator.

Why Sharks Need To Be Protected

1. Top predators are animals that eat other animals but are not eaten by other creatures.
2. Stingrays know that sharks are predators, so they leave seagrass beds when sharks are in this area.
3. Fish breed in seagrass beds because they are hidden from predators.
4. Fish groups need to be balanced so that there is always the right amount of food to sustain the food chain.
5. If the shark population increased out of control, the food groups would become unbalanced and there wouldn't be enough food for the sharks to eat.

People Who Live in Antarctica

1. Antarctica is a desert because only a small amount of rain falls there each year.
2. Fresh fruit and vegetables are only eaten some of the time because it is hard to transport them to Antarctica.
3. Vans are more secure than a hut because vans can be moved to avoid bad weather.
4. People use melted ice for their water supply because there is plenty of ice available, and little fresh water.
5. It is important for the chef to prepare healthy meals so everyone is happy and healthy.
6. Workers and equipment are transported from the ships to the research stations via van or helicopter.

Dr Walker's Blog

1. It was important to check the equipment and medical supplies to be prepared if an emergency arose.
2. A postmark from Antarctica increases the value of a postage stamp because it is very rare.
3. The doctor would need to return quickly to the research station to treat someone who was injured.
4. A sunny day with no wind would be suitable weather for ice climbing.
5. Scientists need to count penguin chicks so they can track the penguins' population.
6. A rescue plane would transport a patient to a hospital if there was a serious medical emergency.



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Percy to the Rescue

1. The first words Mum tried to teach Percy were *"Present for Percy"*.
2. After three weeks, Percy began to talk.
3. Percy became a big problem because he would not stop talking.
4. Dad said they would have to be patient because it takes time to teach a parrot to speak.
5. Answers will vary. (The noises were interesting; Percy was excited by them.)
6. Tom was so sad when his parents said that Percy would have to go back to the pet shop because he wanted to keep Percy as a pet.
7. Percy made the police siren noise when the burglars were in the house to scare them away.
8. Tom said Percy was a very useful parrot because he scared the burglars away.
9. Everyone laughed when Percy said *"TV for me!"* because it was funny.
10. Tom travelled to and from school in a taxi van because he was in a wheelchair.
11. Answers will vary.
12. Parrots copy high, shrill noises because they sound like the noises parrots make.

Camp Buddies

1. Isabella was a new girl at school.
2. Izzie fell over when she tried to pull Grace out of the mud.
3. The girls had to take their sleeping bags to the hall to play 'Musical Sleeping Bags'.
4. Answers will vary. (There were lots of different tent poles; the girls hadn't put up a tent before.)
5. The camp had a large hall so the children had somewhere to play games and avoid bad weather.
6. Everyone had to take off their shoes to play 'Musical Sleeping Bags' so no one got hurt.
7. Answers will vary.
8. The parachute game was called 'Mushroom' because the parachute looked like a mushroom when it was up in the air.
9. Awards were given out on the last night to reward people who did a good job during the camp.
10. Answers will vary. (to learn new skills, to make new friends)
11. Answers will vary. (to have fun, to learn teamwork)
12. Answers will vary.

What a Night!

1. Mum went to the theatre ahead of the rest of the family to get ready, because she was performing in a show.
2. Mum was performing in a musical.
3. The family finally got to the theatre in a horse carriage.
4. Joe took flowers to Mum to make her feel happy and special.
5. There is always lots of traffic in the evening because people in the city are trying to go home, and other people are driving in to the city to see shows, go shopping, or have dinner.
6. The train company would have organised the buses to take people into the city from the train station.
7. Answers will vary.
8. The carriage driver knew about the shorter way to the theatre because she had driven around the city a lot.
9. The lights in the theatre were dimmed to let the audience know the show was about to start.
10. The theatre doors were locked just before the performance started so people couldn't come in late and disrupt the show.
11. A Central Bus Station is a station in a city where all the buses go to.
12. Some cities have people with a horse and carriage for hire because it's an interesting and fun way to see a city.



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Exercise for Everyone

1. Exercise is good for everyone because it makes our bodies fit and strong, and helps us think clearly, sleep well and make friends.
2. It is important to warm up muscles gradually when exercising so they don't get stiff and sore.
3. Sleeping well is important for feeling rested and ready for activities the next day.
4. Answers will vary. (running, throwing a ball)
5. A person needs to change direction quickly when playing ball games so they can get the ball to their teammates.
6. People who are unfit can get sick and/or be overweight.

A Fitness Workout

1. You repeat the push-up exercise four times.
2. You need to record your pulse rate each time you take it so you can compare the results and see if you are getting fitter. You can also see how much the exercise is having an effect on your body.
3. You have to walk carefully with the beanbag on your head so it doesn't fall off.
4. Music is helpful during aerobic exercise because you can use it to move to a beat.
5. Your pulse is the repetitive feeling of blood moving through your veins.
6. Yoga is performed slowly to keep control of the muscles and give them a good workout.

Cooper's Big Speech

1. Last time Cooper did a speech, he got so nervous that he couldn't read a single word.
2. Everyone enjoyed Aunt Jackie's speech because she was confident. She had a strong, clear voice; she stood up straight and tall; she looked at people's faces; and she was dressed neatly.
3. Aunt Jackie's most important advice was to smile.
4. Cooper was chosen to give the speech to welcome the mayor because the teacher believed he could do a good job, and it was important for him to practise public speaking.
5. Olivia helped Cooper by encouraging him to practise.
6. Cooper's parents were pleased he had been chosen to give the speech because they knew he would do a good job and they were proud of him.
7. Cooper practised his speech before he went to sleep so he would remember it the next day.
8. Cooper was so surprised to see Mr Hill at school because he didn't know Mr Hill was the mayor.
9. Ms Price said Cooper would be perfect to play the part of Oliver because he presented his speech well.
10. People's hearts seem to thump when they are nervous because the body releases chemicals into the bloodstream that makes the heart beat faster.
11. It is important to look at the audience when giving a speech so that they feel you are talking to them.
12. A deal is an agreement between two or more people.

Olivia's First Surf

1. Sarah won three heats to enter the final round of the surf contest.
2. Olivia knew about the 'aerial' from seeing it on TV.
3. Sarah won the medal.
4. Olivia only went in shallow water when she was in her wheelchair because it was not safe to go in deep water, and the wheelchair might get stuck or tip over.
5. Olivia felt nervous on her first day of school because she didn't know anyone in her class.
6. Sarah performed tricks on her surfboard because it was fun, challenging and impressive.
7. Sarah's dad wanted to get into the waves before the other surfers arrived so he would have a good spot to catch waves from.
8. The longboard was suitable for Olivia to use because it was big enough for her to lie on safely.
9. Sarah's dad held the board firmly behind Olivia to keep control of it in the waves.
10. Beach wheelchairs have big wheels to help them move across the sand.
11. The lifeguards helped when Olivia had her first surf to make sure she was safe.
12. Ramps are built down to the sand at many beaches to let things on wheels get close to the water easily.



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Long-Distance Running

1. Some adults train for long-distance running events by running to and from work or using a treadmill. They can also run on the weekend or during their lunchtime.
2. A half-marathon is 21 kilometres long.
3. The distance of a cross-country run for children depends on the age of the runner because younger children cannot run as far as older children.
4. Some running clubs are called 'community clubs' because the runners are from a particular community.
5. Some families enter fun runs as teams so they can spend time together doing something they enjoy.
6. Some long-distance runs are famous because they are very difficult and impressive.
7. Runners protect themselves as they run through the Amazon jungle by drinking enough water, wearing sensible clothes and shoes, wearing insect repellent, and carrying proper equipment.
8. Long-distance running challenges many people because it is something that takes a lot of practise and hard work.

The Marathon des Sables

1. The Marathon des Sables is known as the race where you carry everything you need on your back because runners have to carry their supplies with them during the race.
2. Runners have to take a compass to make sure they are going in the right direction.
3. If runners are caught in a sandstorm, they could stand still to make sure they don't get lost. They could cover their faces so they don't get sand in their eyes and mouths.
4. Water is essential when running marathons because runners lose a lot of water from their bodies when they sweat. Drinking water ensures the runner stays hydrated and healthy.

Level 24 Books

The Indoor Forest

1. Matt and his mum moved to the city because Mum got a new job.
2. Miss Potter seemed unfriendly because she never smiled and only ever said 'hello'.
3. Miss Potter wound wire around the branches of the trees so they would grow in interesting shapes.
4. Mum and Matt pressed leaves between the pages of books to flatten them.
5. Answers will vary. (He liked playing in the forest and being around nature.)
6. Many apartments are built with balconies so the people who live there can grow plants and spend time outside.
7. Recycling bins are kept in the basement of apartment buildings so they are easier for the recycling workers to get to.
8. It was important to keep Miss Potter warm after her fall so she didn't go into shock and get sick.
9. People would join a city bonsai club if they liked bonsai and wanted to learn more about them.
10. Japanese people invented the art of bonsai.
11. 'Bonsai' literally means 'plantings in tray'. 'Bonsai' is the art of growing artificially small trees in pots.
12. Bonsai trees can live for many, many years just like full-size trees.

The Troublesome Terrarium

1. The plants in the terrarium looked so different because they were from a different planet.
2. Michael contacted Kraxon for advice.
3. The expert told Michael to water the plants with Zarpian rose dew.
4. Answers will vary. (It was from another planet; the story is set in the future.)
5. Michael sealed the door on the communication pod so Mum wouldn't hear him.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers will vary. (The plants were getting very big; Michael didn't want to get in trouble.)
8. Michael didn't collect rose dew before he went to bed because dew gathers in flowers overnight.
9. Michael should have read the instructions to learn what would happen if he watered the terrarium.
10. *The Troublesome Terrarium* is a science-fiction story.
11. Answers will vary.
12. Answers will vary.



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Level 24 Books cont.

Aeroplanes

1. Biplanes are aeroplanes that have two wings on either side.
2. The Royal Flying Doctor Service is an organisation of doctors who use aeroplanes to visit patients in remote outback areas.
3. Answers will vary. (to encourage people, because it was a very difficult challenge)
4. The statement *Aeroplanes took fighting to the skies* means that because aeroplanes existed, people fought battles in the sky as well as on land or in the sea.
5. Chemicals are used to put out fires because some chemicals act in a way that stops fire spreading, and there may be limited access to water during a bushfire.
6. Answers will vary. (Comets and aeroplanes are both big and travel in the sky; 'comet' is an impressive-sounding name.)
7. Aeroplanes need wings because the air moving across the wings keeps the aeroplane in the sky.
8. The speed of sound is the time it takes for sound to travel through the air.

The Dreamliner

1. The *Dreamliner* was first tested in 2009.
2. Answers will vary. (to get people interested in the new aeroplane, to find the best name possible)
3. Answers will vary.
4. Boeing is a company that designs, makes and sells aeroplanes.

Heavy Machines

1. Bulldozers have metal tracks so they can travel across rough or uneven ground.
2. Graders are used to make gravel roads by clearing the area where the road will be, then pushing dirt along the roadway to fill all the holes in the surface.
3. Bulldozers and excavators need to be transported on a trailer because they cannot travel long distances on the road.
4. Some blocks of land need to be levelled so they are easier to build on.
5. Fixed cranes are used on building sites because the construction work takes a long time, so the crane needs to stay in place to move things.
6. New trees are planted at mines and quarries because the trees that were there originally had to be removed to make room.

How a House Site Is Prepared

1. Bulldozers and excavators are used to clear house sites.
2. Pegs are used to mark the area where the house will be built so the workers know which area to excavate and level.
3. The house site needs to be level so the house will be built level.
4. The special soil is called 'fill' soil because it is used to fill the area that has been excavated.
5. Foundations of houses need to be strong so the house doesn't move once it has been built.
6. An excavator is used to dig out tree roots because the roots are firmly in the ground and can't be pulled out by hand.

The Mysterious Time Capsule

1. Dad had to use a spade to get the time capsule out of the ground because it was firmly stuck in the mud.
2. The children laughed when they saw the paper plane because some of the children had been in trouble for throwing paper planes last term.
3. Emily Bates trained as a nurse because she enjoyed taking care of people who were sick, and helping them get better.
4. Dad took wire and fence posts to the school to help rebuild fences that had been damaged in the storm.
5. Mr Domingo didn't know the time capsule was there because it had been buried for such a long time.
6. Meadow Valley School was much smaller 75 years ago because there were fewer people living in the area.
7. The children swam in a creek instead of a pool because not many towns had pools 75 years ago.
8. Gregor Wells may have read about the Olympic Games in the newspaper or heard about it on the radio.
9. Answers will vary. (She thought her letter was funny; it made her happy to read it.)
10. Amelia Hartley put photos of Amelia Earhart in the capsule because she wanted to be like her one day.
11. Answers will vary. (by finding her family members, through the internet)
12. The children chose the date 2090 because it was 75 years after they found the first time capsule, which was buried for 75 years.



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Sleeping Beauty: A Modern Tale

1. The people of the kingdom learnt about the birth of the princess via the internet.
2. The king and queen were holding a great feast for the baby's naming ceremony.
3. Scary Fairy was the uninvited guest.
4. The elf was called 'Flit' because it means 'to move swiftly and lightly', which is how elves move.
5. The royal cold room is the room for storing cold food (like a freezer).
6. Answers will vary. (because it was funny, because he was bored)
7. The wicked fairy called the baby 'Princess La-la' because she was being mean.
8. The wicked fairy stomped out of the castle because she was mad.
9. The wicked fairy said her name was 'Mary McFairy' because she was hiding her real name, which rhymed with 'Mary McFairy'.
10. The narrator tells the parts of the story that aren't spoken as dialogue by the actors.
11. A traditional tale is a story that has been told many times over a number of years.
12. Answers will vary. (to show a different side of the story, to make it interesting for children today)

Animals with Armour

1. The scales on a snake's belly allow it to move over rough ground.
2. A seahorse is a type of fish that has hard, bony plates under its skin.
3. Other creatures avoid eating a seahorse because the bony plates are not easy to eat.
4. Most turtles pull their feet, tail and head into their shells to avoid predators.
5. Dew would gather on the Thorny Devil lizard at night, and the lizard could lick the dew off with its tongue.
6. The hedgehog needs to protect its belly and head because these areas are not covered in spikes and are therefore more vulnerable than the rest of the body.
7. Sharp quills are useful armour because a predator does not want to bite something sharp and spiky.
8. Answers will vary. (The predator might starve to death; it might hurt the clam.)
9. While exoskeletons can be flexible, they cannot grow because they are too hard.

Make Your Own Animal with Armour

1. Wool was used to make the echidna's armour.
2. Stiff cardboard is used to make the model because you need something strong to wind the wool around.
3. Wool has to almost block the centre hole in the body shape so the echidna's armour looks very thick at the end.

Outdoor Art Activities

1. An artist can use chalk or charcoal to draw on concrete paths.
2. When the mixture of blue food dye and water is added to the picture, all the colours of the oil pastels will stand out.
3. The artist smudges the chalk on the sidewalk chalk to spread the colour.
4. Answers will vary.
5. An artist needs to be sitting somewhere comfortable before beginning to draw because the drawing might take a long time.
6. The artist uses a clipboard to keep the paper flat and still.
7. The artist needs to go inside to finish the colourful tree picture because it would be difficult to mix the food dye and water outside.
8. Damp sand is more suitable for sculpting because it sticks together better than dry sand.
9. A paintbrush is useful for smoothing out the face of the sculpture because the bristles help push the sand into the right places.
10. Answers will vary.
11. Clouds are a suitable subject for artwork because they are beautiful and are many shapes and sizes.
12. It is important for artists to sign their work so that everyone knows who made it.



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Windy Nights and Other Poems

1. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote the poem 'The Cow'.
2. Meems is a cat.
3. The Triantiwontigongolope eats weeds and wattle-gum.
4. Answers will vary.
5. The girl was *sweating with the heat* because she was hot from climbing up the hill while wearing her winter clothes.
6. Answers will vary.
7. People stay quiet and still on an underground train because it's not polite to be loud or run around on trains.
8. Answers will vary. (to be descriptive, because the workmen look like a swarm of bees)
9. Robert Louis Stevenson was a poet and author.
10. 'Anonymous' means that the name of whoever wrote the poem is unknown.
11. Answers will vary. (It is dramatic; it is exciting.)

Our Brother Andy

1. Tom and Billy rode their horse to school each day.
2. Tom put the rooster's feathers in his hat so he looked like his brother, Andy.
3. Henry Lawson wrote *Andy's Gone with Cattle*.
4. The band in the park was playing stirring music to motivate people to join the army.
5. Andy was excited about signing up to become a soldier because he thought it would be an adventure.
6. Dad told Mum not to cry as they waved goodbye to Andy because he didn't want Andy to see she was sad.
7. Tom felt that it was dull at home without Andy because Andy was always joking and making everyone smile.
8. Mr Amos read the poem to the class because even though it was about droving cattle, it described the feelings of people whose loved ones had gone to war.
9. Answers will vary. (to show he was making friends, to show he was safe)
10. Soldiers from Australia and New Zealand joined the war in Europe because Britain was in the war, and Australia and New Zealand was part of the British Empire (now the Commonwealth of Nations).
11. Answers will vary. (It was important to her; it made reminded her of Andy.)
12. Some of Andy's mates were *left at Gallipoli forever* because they died in the war in Gallipoli.