Reading Comprehension
The Big Book of the Blue

Year 3/4

HIAS English Team
Spring 2020
Final version

Using the Home Learning Materials

The materials

- Each reading booklet contains a key text and suggested activities that can be used to develop comprehension and understanding.
- The sequence should take no more than 1 hour to complete, it could be completed in two 30 mins sessions or four 15 minute sessions.
- Reading for pleasure, fluency and stamina should be developed through regular sustained reading using the books identified by the school.

How to use

- Read the instructions carefully before you start a task.
- Each sequence contains simple explanations and examples to help you.

How can parents, carers and siblings help?

- Read the extracts aloud with your child
- Check your child understands any new or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Adapt any of the resources and materials as you feel necessary to support your child's needs

Reading comprehension sequence

This sequence is developed around an extract from 'The Big Book of the Blue' by Yuval Zommer. The extract used here can be found at:
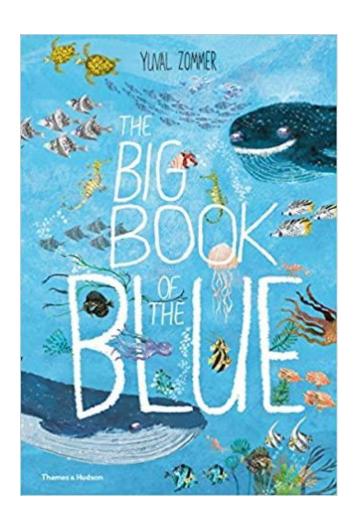
https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/extract/16012/The-Big-Book-of-the-Blue-by-Yuval-Zommer.html

Teaching sequence:
1) Make inferences using knowledge of the world
2) Develop reading fluency
3) Summarise a text
4) Quick quiz!

The Big Book of the Blue

If a copy of the text is unavailable, follow this link to lovereading4kids.co.uk where you can download a free extract:

https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/extract/16012/The-Big-Book-of-the-Blue-by-Yuval-Zommer.html

1. Make inferences using knowledge of the world

Ask children to listen to sounds of the ocean (**this needs to be done without the children knowing that it is the ocean**). Follow this link or find similar:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f77SKdyn-1Y

Ask children to draw on their knowledge of the world to make predictions about what they hear. Complete the vocabulary wall below to capture their thought and ideas.

Ask the children to draw/paint/collage a picture of the scene that they have imagined. They could label their picture with the vocabulary gathered in the above table. Show children the YouTube clip; how close was their picture?

2. Develop reading fluency

Most of the planet is covered in water but we are not always taking good care of it. There are many things that humans do that can damage the sea and the creatures that live there.

Lots of plastic rubbish ends up in the sea. This harms animals and their habitats. We can help to stop this by using fewer things made from plastic.

Large ships spill harmful oil into the oceans. Their noisy engines make it difficult for sea mammals to communicate.

Unlike natural materials such as wood, plastic takes 400 years to break down.

Some types of fish are almost extinct because we have caught and eaten too many of them.

Sea creatures can choke on plastic rubbish. Sometimes large fish eat lumps of plastic which make them feel unwell.

Humans have burned lots of fossil fuels, warming up the planet. This means that sea levels have risen and sea water has become more acidic, making it hard for some sea life to survive.

Read and enjoy the text from the page on how humans can damage the seas but don't show them the actual extract on Love Reading for Kids yet...

Focus on:

➢ Expression & volume

➢ Phrasing

➢ Smoothness
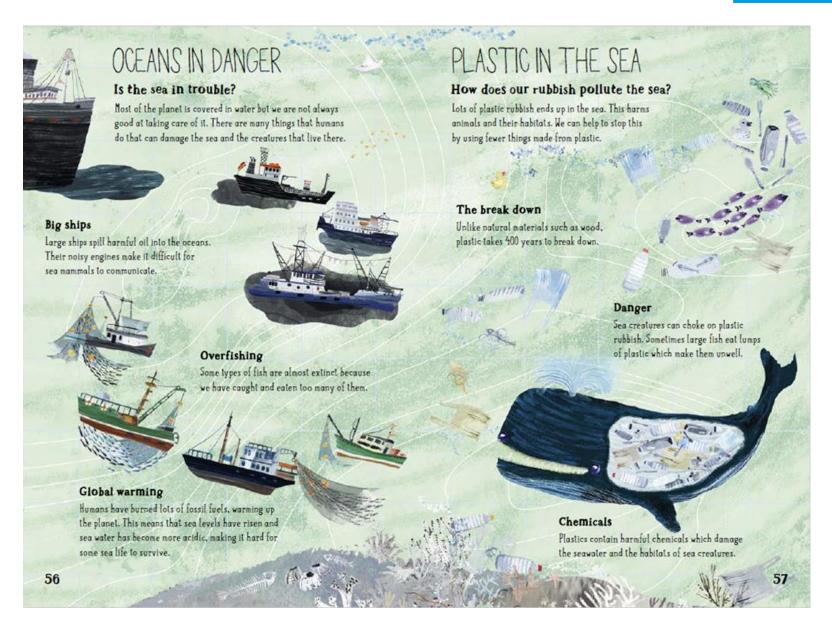
➢ Pace

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3. Summarise a text

Now ask the children to re-read each paragraph in the table below. Then read the subtitles. Can they match each sub-title to the correct paragraph? Once the children have completed this, flick to the next page for the answers. Did the children match the right paragraph with the correct sub-title?   Discuss the reasons for each choice, exploring vocabulary and subject knowledge.

Paragraph	Sub-title
Most of the planet is covered in water but we are not always taking good care of it. There are many things that humans do that can damage the sea and the creatures that live there.	Chemicals
Lots of plastic rubbish ends up in the sea. This harms animals and their habitats. We can help to stop this by using fewer things made from plastic.	How does our rubbish pollute the sea?
Humans have burned lots of fossil fuels, warming up the planet. This means that sea levels have risen and sea water has become more acidic, making it hard for some sea life to survive.	Global warming
Sea creatures can choke on plastic rubbish. Sometimes large fish eat lumps of plastic which make them feel unwell.	Big ships
Large ships spill harmful oil into the oceans. Their noisy engines make it difficult for sea mammals to communicate.	Is the sea in trouble?
Some types of fish are almost extinct because we have caught and eaten too many of them.	Danger
Unlike natural materials such as wood, plastic takes 400 years to break down.	Overfishing

OCEANS IN DANGER

Is the sea in trouble?

Most of the planet is covered in water but we are not always good at taking care of it. There are many things that humans do that can damage the sea and the creatures that live there.

Big ships

Large ships spill harmful oil into the oceans. Their noisy engines make it difficult for sea mammals to communicate.

Overfishing

Some types of fish are almost extinct because we have caught and eaten too many of them.

Global warming

Humans have burned lots of fossil fuels, warming up the planet. This means that sea levels have risen and sea water has become more acidic, making it hard for some sea life to survive.

PLASTIC IN THE SEA

How does our rubbish pollute the sea?

Lots of plastic rubbish ends up in the sea. This harms animals and their habitats. We can help to stop this by using fewer things made from plastic.

The break down

Unlike natural materials such as wood, plastic takes 400 years to break down.

Danger

Sea creatures can choke on plastic rubbish. Sometimes large fish eat lumps of plastic which make them unwell.

Chemicals

Plastics contain harmful chemicals which damage the seawater and the habitats of sea creatures.

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4 – Quick Quiz

Discuss the following questions based on the extract used in this unit of work.

1. Find one word (a verb) which means to '*pour*' or '*empty*.'

2. From reading the text, suggest two ways in which humans could help protect the oceans:

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3. In your own words, what effect has burning fossil fuels had on the planet?

4. How long does it take plastic to disintegrate in the oceans?

5. Based on reading the text, what unexpected items might you find inside a whale's stomach?

HIAS English team

The HIAS English team offer a wide range of high-quality services to support schools in improving outcomes for learners, including courses, bespoke consultancy and in-house training.

During the current school closures, we are still offering school support in a variety of ways such as video conferencing, phone calls, bespoke creation of resources remotely and teacher training via virtual classrooms. We would be happy to discuss your needs.

For further details referring to English, please contact:
        Emma Tarrant : emma.tarrant@hants.gov.uk

For further details on the full range of services available please contact us using the following details:

Tel: 01962 874820 or email: hias.enquiries@hants.gov.uk