



# guided reading books

## Answers – Emerald

### Level 25 Books

#### Moving On

1. Briar was the new girl at school, and the daughter of Dad's new friend.
2. Tess felt sick when she realised that Dad's new friend was Briar's mum.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Gran meant that Tess should not be rude like Briar, but give Briar some space to deal with whatever problem was upsetting her.
5. Gran had a quiet word with Dad to explain to him that Tess was feeling upset.
6. Nathan sat still and white-faced while Tess shouted at Dad because he was upset and confused by the situation.
7. Mum told Tess she was glad that Dad had a new friend because she wanted him to be happy.
8. Briar was grumpy during the fishing trip because she did not want to share her mum with Tess's family.
9. Briar wanted to go to the hospital with Tess because she cared about her.
10. Some people speak and act badly when they have problems because they feel bad and do not know how to react.
11. It is important to keep a victim warm immediately after an accident so they do not go into shock.
12. Answers will vary.

#### Famous Bridges

1. The Chapel Bridge in Switzerland is unique because it has a large collection of paintings dating back to the 17th century, set in the interior of the bridge's roof.
2. The Chengyang Wind and Rain Bridge has verandahs and towers that look like birds flapping their wings.
3. Some aqueducts that were built thousands of years ago are still standing today because they were well designed and built from sturdy materials.
4. One thousand workers were needed to build the Pont du Gard because it is very large and was built without the help of modern technology.
5. Many people use the Tower Bridge in London every day because London has a large population who use it to get from one side of the city to the other. Many tourists also visit the Tower Bridge because it is a major tourist attraction.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers will vary. (so the bridge is safe, so it looks good)
8. An earthquake could affect a bridge's structure and make it unsafe to use.
9. A cable-stay pillar is a pillar with cables secured to it that support the deck of the bridge.

#### Ponte Vecchio: A Magical Place

1. Ponte Vecchio is a beautiful setting for photography because the evening lights from the city create perfect reflections on the archways of the bridge and on the ripples of the water.
2. Workshops for butchers and tanners were originally built on the sides of Ponte Vecchio so the waste from the workshops could easily be cleaned into the River Arno.
3. The Romans built bridges throughout Europe and the United Kingdom to make their journeys easier.

#### Hector's Electro-Pet Shop

1. Mrs Grey came back to the shop to make a complaint because her robo-rabbit was behaving like a dog.
2. Hector's expression changed when the robo-rabbit saw the cyber-cat and ran towards it.
3. The metal body of the digi-dog became covered in scratches when it tried to fly by leaping off the furniture.
4. Julie was called an 'assistant' because she assisted, or helped, Hector in the shop.
5. The expression *in spite of all the interest* means that sales had not been affected by the large amount of interest in the electro-pets.
6. Mrs Grey 'stomped' when she came into the shop because she was angry.
7. The robo-rabbit sniffed the floor like a beagle because Julie swapped the pets' brain chips around, so the robo-rabbit had a beagle brain chip in it.
8. Mrs Grey didn't find any humour in Hector's joke about digi-dogs because she was still upset about her robo-rabbit.
9. The April Fools' Day trick backfired because customers were upset and Julie could not open the brain compartments again.
10. Answers will vary.
11. Customers should be given a full refund if they are not satisfied with a product because they deserve to get what they pay for.
12. Hector declared his business was in very big trouble because people were treating his animals like jokes and he was worried he would lose customers.



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#### The Arctic Circle

1. Most of the Arctic's precipitation is falling snow.
2. The Arctic is sometimes called *the land of the midnight Sun* because in summer, the Sun does not set and can be shining at midnight.
3. The ice in the central part of the Arctic Ocean stays frozen all year round because the Arctic is the furthest area of Earth from the Sun, so it is very cold.
4. Forests can grow in the southern parts of the Arctic because it is not as cold as in the north, where the ground is frozen.
5. Dense, fluffy feathers help birds to survive in the Arctic by providing a barrier from the cold.
6. Snowshoes are useful in the Arctic because they provide more grip on the slippery ice.
7. It is important for indigenous people to keep their culture strong because their traditional way of life is being challenged by outside influences.
8. People mark imaginary lines like the Arctic Circle on maps to aid navigation and measurement.
9. Terns migrate as far away as the Antarctic so they have constant access to a good food supply and can avoid predators.

#### SOS! Save the Polar Bears!

1. A food web is a diagram that shows how different animals' diets are connected.
2. Arctic foxes need polar bears to kill seals because the foxes are too small, and cannot go into the water themselves.
3. People could take better care of the environment to prevent the Earth's climate from warming. This would help protect the polar bear, which is threatened by the sea ice melting.

#### The Swimming Pool Project

1. Lincoln and Riley's idea number four was to do lots of jobs for Lincoln's mum and dad.
2. Dad took Lincoln and Riley to swimming lessons because Aunt Chloe and Mum were both working.
3. Emma and Jack were excellent swimmers because they practised in their pool at home.
4. Aunt Chloe couldn't convince Dad to get a swimming pool because he knew that building a pool would take a lot of work.
5. Mum and Dad exchanged glances and laughed when they saw the boys in the paddling pool because the boys looked funny and were trying very hard to convince them to get a pool.
6. Dad didn't allow anyone to touch his lawn because he was very proud of it.
7. Dad was concerned about the amount of power it would take to heat a pool because electricity is expensive.
8. They boys were invited back to Emma and Jack's place on Friday because the weather was hot and they could practise swimming there.
9. Mum and Dad changed their minds about getting a pool after Dad went swimming with the boys and had fun.
10. Dad took a long look at his lawn when Mum was using the measuring tape because he was sad it would be dug up to make room for the pool.
11. The new pool wasn't ready in time for Lincoln's birthday because it takes some time to build a pool.
12. All children should have the opportunity to learn to swim because it is important to be safe around water.

#### Making Art with Light

1. The wax shavings for the lantern were made by grating wax crayons.
2. The ball of plasticine is used for safely pushing the skewer through the top of the sun catcher.
3. In the constellation artworks, the artist creates the effect of stars by poking holes in the card with a skewer.
4. Brightly coloured crayons are suitable for making a lantern because they melt into interesting patterns.
5. The paper for the lantern is cut into a zigzag shape at the top so there is something to glue the cardboard base onto.
6. Buttons and beads are used to make the sun catcher because they are cheap, easy to get and look pretty in the finished artwork.
7. The glue needs to be completely dry before cutting the edges of the sun catcher because the scissors would not be able to cut them neatly if the glue was still sticky.
8. A sheet of craft foam or a folded tea towel is placed under the black paper so the skewer does not damage the table you are working on.
9. A constellation portrait needs to be placed in a sunny window so the light will shine through the holes to make 'stars'.
10. An LED light is a light that shines because of an electronic current.
11. PVA glue doesn't stick to lid because it cannot soak into plastic.
12. Answers will vary.



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#### Alex the Super Soccer Striker

1. Alex felt very shy because it was her first day at a new school.
2. Alex played in the position of striker during the trial game.
3. When Zac was cornered by three defenders during the trial game, he tried to kick a goal but missed.
4. Zac guessed that Alex probably played hockey or netball because they are team sports that are often popular with girls.
5. Zac was the captain of the school soccer team last year.
6. Ms Jackson said *"Maybe we are in for some surprises this year"* because she was interested to see who the new players were.
7. Answers will vary. (He didn't think girls should play soccer; he was trying to intimidate her.)
8. Alex didn't tell Zac she was an experienced soccer player because she wanted to surprise him.
9. Zac called Alex 'Alexandra' because he didn't know her friends called her 'Alex'.
10. Some people's cheeks turn red when they feel embarrassed because chemicals in their brain make the blood rush to their cheeks.
11. Answers will vary. (Girls and boys might have different skill levels or strengths.)
12. Answers will vary. (because sports stars are great at sports, because they are famous)

#### The Great Barrier Reef

1. Coral mainly grows in clear, shallow water because it needs sunlight to grow.
2. The Great Barrier Reef was made a World Heritage Site so that it would be protected for people to enjoy in the future.
3. Some soft corals are at risk of being eaten by marine creatures because they look like plants.
4. Coral that is dumped into deep water during a cyclone dies because it cannot get the sunlight it needs to grow.
5. Humpback Whales migrate to the Great Barrier Reef to breed because the water is warm there, which gives the calves a greater chance of survival.
6. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples learnt about the Great Barrier Reef as they journeyed through the region to trade with other Indigenous groups along the coast.

#### Snorkelling on the Reef

1. The visitors learnt about the plants and animals on the reef from the guide, who provided commentary about the marine life found in the reef.
2. The boat pulled away from the jetty quietly because the engine was small so it didn't make too much noise.
3. Mum made the children practise using their snorkels before entering the water so they would be safe and comfortable when they were snorkelling.
4. It is important to protect the coral by not touching it because touching the coral could damage it.

#### Popcorn the Wonder Pony

1. Sophie joined the pony club because her pony, Popcorn, seemed bored after Mum and Dad sold the family circus.
2. Popcorn trod on the foot of the judge with frizzy hair and pearls.
3. Mr Grimble decided not to give Popcorn a ribbon for the whitest teeth because Popcorn snorted and bits of carrot flew into Mr Grimble's hair.
4. Answers will vary. (She wanted to surprise them; she was embarrassed because they laughed at Popcorn.)
5. Popcorn was called a 'wonder pony' when he was in the circus because he did wonderful tricks.
6. Sophie kicked off her boots when she performed her tricks so she could balance better.
7. Sophie believed Popcorn would win a ribbon at the gymkhana because she knew he had special skills.
8. The expression *dunce of the class* means the worst in the class.
9. Sophie felt her pony needed to be appreciated because she loved him and she wanted everyone to know how special he was.
10. A head judge is often appointed at events such as a gymkhana in case the other judges do not agree on who should win, or if there is a difficult decision to be made.
11. Answers will vary.
12. There are laws today about animals performing in circuses because some people do not think that it is good work for animals.



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### Level 25 Books cont.

#### A Community Cares and Shares

1. Older students can help at a kindergarten by reading to younger children or helping set out equipment for an activity.
2. Some communities celebrate by throwing festivals, dressing up in costumes, eating special foods or exchanging gifts.
3. It is important to listen to everyone's opinions and beliefs so that decisions can be made that are best for the most people.
4. Older students need to speak softly to kindergarten children so the younger children do not get scared or overwhelmed.
5. Answers will vary. (glass, sharp objects, small objects that a young child might put in their mouth)
6. Green waste is turned into compost at composting sites.
7. Community groups need to have leaders to keep the group organised and make sure everyone's opinions are listened to.
8. Answers will vary. (provide food, water and clothes, build shelters, provide medical assistance)
9. Rubbish and chemicals are the main pollutants in streams and waterways.

#### No Outdoor Gym in Our Park!

1. The Henley District Council wanted to build an outdoor gym at the park.
2. The students felt they should share their thoughts with the council because they wanted to convince the council to not build the gym.
3. People of all ages should exercise regularly so they stay healthy.

### Level 26 Books

#### Runaway Alien

1. Keebo was nervous because his parents were going to be in the audience of the school concert.
2. Keebo's fur was soft and sleek, like a seal.
3. Ms Bramble asked Sochi to make sure Keebo was all right because he was Keebo's best friend.
4. A rolling ring is a big circle of people who roll Keebo until he feels better.
5. A backstage crew is required at a performance to help set up and ensure everything runs smoothly between acts.
6. An alien is a creature from another planet.
7. Answers will vary.
8. Keebo and his parents might have travelled to Earth on a spaceship.
9. Everyone rushed to help Keebo when he went spherical because he was everyone's friend and they were happy to help him.
10. The teacher used the glitter launcher at the end of the concert because it was very impressive and a good way to end the show.
11. Answers will vary.

#### Luca's Adventures in Florence

1. Luca decided to make a secret visit to Florence to see his brother, Renzo, and to make sure Renzo didn't forget about his family.
2. Mino showed Luca to the Master's house because he believed Luca would do the same for him.
3. Luca gave Mino the small gold coin because Mino needed it more than Luca.
4. The roads to Florence were gravelly and bumpy because they had been made by hand instead of with machines, as they are today.
5. Luca's uncle was arguing about the price of onions because he wanted to get as much money as possible for them.
6. Mino had to look after himself because he didn't have any family around to look after him.
7. Renzo's face went white when he heard the Master returning because he was afraid he could get into trouble for having Luca there.
8. The Master told Luca that the joins on the lid were perfect because he was impressed with Luca's work.
9. Luca said it would be an honour to work for the Master because the Master was a very important man.
10. The title 'the Master' means someone who is in charge.
11. Answers will vary. (They look impressive; they are valuable.)
12. There were many grand buildings and cobbled streets in Florence because it was a wealthy and busy city.



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### Level 26 Books **cont.**

#### **My Brother Harry**

1. Katie was reluctant to tell Jade about her brother, Harry, because she was worried that Jade would make fun of her or tell everyone at school about his unusual behaviour.
2. Harry didn't go to the same school as Katie because he was at a school where he could get a lot of help with his autism.
3. There was a corkboard at Katie's house for Harry's cue cards.
4. It took Katie's father two hours to collect Harry from school because it was far away.
5. Answers will vary. (She loved him; she was embarrassed because he behaved differently from other people.)
6. Katie went outside and bounced on the trampoline after her parents spoke to her about Harry because she needed to relieve some stress.
7. When Katie said that loud sounds hurt Harry's head, she meant that he was sensitive to noise.
8. Jade's reactions to Harry were helpful to Katie because they showed her that people would not tease her because Harry had special needs.
9. Jade asked Harry to count the insects because she wanted to include him.
10. Answers will vary. (because some children don't know that it's hurtful to be made fun of, because some children act differently)
11. Harry might receive help with how to talk to people and make friends.
12. Answers will vary. (Harry's family might take him somewhere quieter, distract him, or hold his hand to soothe him.)

#### **High-Speed Trains**

1. The *Eurostar* travels to Paris and Brussels from London.
2. Fast trains need tracks that have been specially built so the trains can go at high speeds safely and smoothly.
3. Japan's first fast train was called the 'bullet train' because the front of the train looks like a bullet.
4. The tapered front of a fast train helps it to travel faster because air can flow across it easily.
5. Maglev trains cause less damage to the environment because they are propelled by magnets instead of fossil fuel.
6. It takes more time to board a plane than a train because airports have more safety restrictions and rules to follow when boarding.
7. Fast trains are only used for long-distance journeys because they are very expensive to make and are not needed for short journeys.

#### **How the First Fast Train Was Developed**

1. Improved design, wide gauge tracks, reduced vibration and automatic train control were needed for fast trains to operate safely.
2. The bottom of the bullet trains' passenger cars were fitted with air springs to reduce vibrations.
3. A wide gauge track is safer than a narrow gauge track because there is less chance that the train could tip off tracks that are further apart when it is going very fast.
4. A train can maintain a very high speed if there are no sharp curves because it does not need to brake as hard when approaching a corner.
5. Other countries reacted to the development of the bullet train by working hard to improve their train systems.

#### **The Mystery at Number 7**

1. The truckload of sand was for Miranda's back garden.
2. The gang was surprised when they peered through the glass door at the front of Number 7 because the house was completely empty.
3. Miranda's full name was Miranda Le Vine.
4. The pool had to be filled with natural saltwater because Miranda was spending a lot of time in it.
5. The curtains were dusty in the rickety tree house because they were outside and had been up for a long time.
6. Miranda sang when the gang saw her because she wanted to entertain or surprise them.
7. Mum changed her clothes and shoes before they went to greet the new neighbour because she knew the neighbour was a famous actress.
8. The TV crew included the man with the microphone so the sound of the interview could be recorded.
9. The TV crew didn't knock before they went down the path to the pool because they knew Miranda would be in the back yard.
10. Mum gave Abby a funny look when Abby asked if Miranda had two legs because most people do have two legs, and she didn't know why Abby would think otherwise.
11. Answers will vary. (It looked like a magic garden or a place out of a story.)
12. Movies are usually filmed in situations that are as natural as possible so the film-makers don't need to spend extra money on props.



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### Level 26 Books cont.

#### The Water Cycle

1. The water cycle is extremely important to life on Earth because plants, animals and people need water to survive.
2. Water vapour resembles clouds when it floats off a large surface.
3. When rivers meet the sea, fresh water mixes with salt water, but the pure water eventually evaporates again.
4. Water in water vapour is safe to drink because it is pure water that contains no dirt or salt.
5. Cumulus clouds are seen below cirrus clouds because cirrus clouds are very thin, whereas cumulus clouds contain more water vapour and are thicker.
6. Places near the equator have rain all year round because the sun is the closest at that area of Earth, so more water evaporates and turns back into rain.
7. Answers will vary. (tanks, pools in the desert)
8. The quality of the water that had been underground for thousands of years would be good, because it would not have had contact with modern pollution.
9. If all the ice in the Arctic and Antarctic melted, the water levels around the world would rise and all of Earth would be in danger.

#### Why We Need a Water Tank at School

1. Most of the water at Silverton School is used in the bathrooms.
2. The teachers asked the students about how they could improve their school because it was “Ideas Week”.
3. Answers will vary. (asking people to donate money, selling items to raise money)

#### Food We Eat: Then and Now

1. People eat different foods now than in the past because there are more types of food available today.
2. Milk was delivered early in the morning so it was fresh and safe to drink.
3. Drying the tomatoes prevents them from spoiling because the process gets rid of most of the water that puts them at risk of spoiling.
4. Couscous changes from dry and hard to soft and fluffy when cooked.
5. Many people choose to eat tofu because it is rich in protein and can replace meat in many vegetarian diets.
6. Fresh products, such as fruit, vegetable, meat and dairy spoil quickly when not refrigerated.
7. People are encouraged to try new products at supermarkets by advertising and people who hand out free samples..

#### How to Make a Couscous Salad

1. This recipe needs two bowls because one is for the couscous and one is for the dressing.
2. The spring onions, capsicum, sun-dried tomatoes, cucumber and parsley are chopped using the knife.
3. The couscous is left to stand for 10 minutes in the large bowl to give it time to absorb the water and oil.
4. Answers will vary. (Yellow capsicum has the perfect flavour for couscous salad; the colours look nice together.)
5. The parsley and pine nuts are added last because they are there for decoration as well as taste.

#### The Everglades

1. The Everglades is a most unusual place because it is a grassland with a very wide, slow-moving river flowing over and around it.
2. Mangrove trees grow where the ocean tides meet fresh water.
3. Mosquitoes and other insects are attracted to hot, humid conditions because it is the perfect habitat for them.
4. If the Burmese python is not controlled in the future it may eat too many animals that are eaten by natural predators in the park, which would upset the food chain balance.
5. Florida panthers would hunt and eat animals such as hares, mice, deer and birds.
6. Rangers provide visitors with historical information so people can learn about all aspects of the Everglades.
7. Fertilisers and other chemicals flow into the Everglades from cities and farms that use the same water supply as the Everglades.
8. The ice age was a period of time when Earth’s temperature was very low and ice sheets covered much of the planet.
9. The Europeans had a devastating effect on the Native American people in the Everglades because they forced the Native American people from their homelands. Europeans also introduced a number of diseases that killed many Native Americans.

#### On the Wilderness Waterway

1. The family found their way along the maze of water surrounded by plants by following signposts put up by the rangers.
2. Maggie was nervous when an alligator glided alongside the boat because alligators can be dangerous.
3. The main differences between crocodiles and alligators are the shapes of their heads and where they live. Alligators have shorter, wider heads than crocodiles. Alligators are only found in the United States and China, while crocodiles are found all over the world.



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## Dog Day!

1. Rusty disappeared from under the table because Dad did not tie the lead properly.
2. Dad did not answer his phone because he did not hear it ringing.
3. People laughed when they saw Rusty on the stage because they thought he was part of the act.
4. The organisers had food stalls at the event so people could eat during the day.
5. There might be demonstrations of special training and skills at the Dog Day Walk.
6. Mum gave Rusty's ear a rub to say goodbye before she went to join the band.
7. Answers will vary.
8. Rusty ran towards the stage to see Mum.
9. Answers will vary. (in case Rusty needed something to eat, to coax or control Rusty, if necessary)
10. Dogs need to be registered at a public event in case a dog gets lost or misbehaves.
11. An animal shelter is a place where animals who don't have homes live until they can be adopted.
12. Answers will vary.

## Exploring Caves

1. A cave system is a cave with long, winding tunnels and narrow passages.
2. Cave art was created in prehistoric times as a way for people to communicate stories.
3. Limestone caves take millions of years to form because they are formed from water very slowly dissolving the calcium in the limestone.
4. Cavers need high energy snacks for an energy boost, as exploring caves is physically demanding. Cavers would also take snacks that are high in nutrients when exploring caves, in case they get lost and need to survive on the snacks until they are found.
5. Scientists need to study and record the climate inside caves to make sure the natural balance is maintained.
6. One zone in the cave is called the 'twilight zone' because there is still some light visible but not much, similar to at twilight.

### The Deepest Cave on Earth: Krubera Cave

1. Krubera Cave is in the country of Georgia.
2. Exploring Krubera Cave is compared to climbing Mount Everest because they are both extreme – Mount Everest is Earth's highest mountain and Krubera Cave is the deepest explored cave.
3. Eyeless insects would find their way and keep safe from predators by using other senses, such as hearing and touch.