

**explore** Readers **21-40**

**SET 2**

# EXPLORE

**TEACHERS' RESOURCE**

Sharlene G. Coombs

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Readers  
**21-40**

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We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

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# Introduction

**W**elcome to the Teachers' Resource for Set 2 of **eExplore**, our popular high interest, low reading level chapter books. This second set of stories has been designed to engage even the most reluctant reader, with highly readable, interesting topics that take the reader on a journey from learning to read, to reading to learn.

Chapter book formats, mature presentation and striking visuals ensure that upper primary and secondary learning support students are appropriately challenged and engaged, and most importantly, keen to continue their reading journey by exploring more titles within the series.

Many topics focus on how goal-setting, determination, patience, persistence, and resilience can bring about achievement in all sorts of fields... strategies that help plant the seed for each student's path to their own unique achievements.

This Teachers' Resource has been designed to help your students engage in deeper learning opportunities through literacy activities that link with the stories. Activities include:

- Spelling and vocabulary development
- Sentence structure and dictionary work
- Oral language
- Comprehension
- Writing

Various **ACARA F-10** references are also addressed in each of the stories.

**Sharlene Coombs**

Author and Instructional Designer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Roadhouse 21 To Nowhere

## Word Bank

adventures	spreading	quietly	listened
exploring	travellers	scenery	remotely
hospitals	hundred	tentacles	electrician
strength	important	refrigerator	crocodiles
competition	straight	boarding	ceremonies
generator	beautiful	kilometre	
sprinklers	interesting	distance	

Say each word out loud, breaking it down into syllables.  
Write the number of syllables beside each word.

1

## Spelling Builder

Add the missing letters to the list words below:

\_ m \_ o \_ t \_ n \_

c \_ r \_ m \_ n \_ e \_

\_ e \_ t \_ c \_ e \_

s \_ r \_ a \_ i \_ g

2

## Vocab Builder – Word Maze

Find the following list words in the maze:

strength straight quietly distance  
scenery listened travellers boarding

R	E	S	D	A	L	I	H	R	A	C	I
H	S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H	T	U	E
C	C	E	Q	T	I	R	O	A	Y	N	L
O	E	S	T	R	A	I	G	H	T	G	A
D	N	B	O	A	R	D	I	N	G	Q	E
R	E	A	U	V	G	U	L	T	A	U	P
E	R	I	T	E	S	A	S	N	G	I	N
B	Y	D	Y	L	I	S	T	E	N	E	D
N	T	U	S	L	C	E	I	O	D	T	V
A	D	B	H	E	V	E	B	G	R	L	E
Q	S	A	S	R	O	L	I	R	M	Y	P
M	R	D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	S	E

3

## Dictionary Work

Sort the following list words in alphabetical order from 1 to 8. Write the 4th word below:

remotely      competition      sprinklers      ceremonies  
quietly      distance      exploring      hundred

4th word: \_\_\_\_\_

Which word has the same meaning as wandering? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Roadhouse 21 To Nowhere

4

## Discussion Time

With a partner, discuss your favourite parts of the story and your reasons why. Record your answers and use them to answer Part 6 below.

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5

## Comprehension

How far away was the nearest mailbox?

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What are the symptoms of dehydration?

---

What happens during the wet period in Northern Australia?

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6

## Writing Time

Write a letter to the author about your favourite parts of the story. Include at least 2 questions to find out more about his life:

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7

## Make the Connections

Use the internet to find out more about the remote roadhouses across Australia. Write down 4 amazing facts you've discovered:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Bushrangers! 22

## Captain Thunderbolt

### Word Bank

bushranger	policemen	tollbars	community
criminal	armour	popular	plaque
Australia	captured	disappeared	celebrate
settlements	Melbourne	constable	museum
Governor	Thunderbolt	exhausted	respects
protected	excellent	surrender	
outlaws	discovered	cemetery	

Say each word out loud, breaking it down into syllables.  
Write the number of syllables beside each word.

1

### Spelling Builder

Add the missing letters to the list words below:

\_ i \_ a \_ p \_ a \_ e \_

c \_ m \_ t \_ r \_

\_ r \_ m \_ n \_ l

\_ e \_ p \_ c \_ s

2

### Vocab Builder – Compound Words

Thunderbolt is a compound word:

Thunder / bolt

Find 4 other compound words from the list:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

3

### Sentence Work

Choose the correct list words to complete the sentences below:

\_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_. He was an  
\_\_\_\_\_ horseman. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Uralla  
\_\_\_\_\_ his life each year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Bushrangers! 22

## Captain Thunderbolt

4

### Discussion Time

With a partner, discuss why you think Thunderbolt was a popular bushranger and why they still celebrate his life today.

---

---

5

### Comprehension

How did the Gold Rush lead to more bushrangers across the country?

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List 3 of Thunderbolt's favourite places that he liked to hide:

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Why was Thunderbolt called The Gentleman Bushranger?

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6

### Writing Time

Imagine yourself living a day in Thunderbolt's life and write a diary entry:

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7

### Thinking Beyond the Text

Using the internet, research other Australian bushrangers and list some similarities and differences between them and Captain Thunderbolt:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Murphy, 23 Care Dog

## Word Bank

Australian	tumbleweed	therapy	carnivores
Shepherd	exactly	uniform	vegetable
popular	behaving	beautiful	exciting
medium	natural	tangled	
protect	special	exercise	
loyal	hospital	energy	
woolly	quickly	healthy	

Say each word out loud, breaking it down into syllables.  
Write the number of syllables beside each word.

### 1 Vocab Builder – Antonyms

Find the antonyms (opposites) for the following list words:

quickly \_\_\_\_\_

beautiful \_\_\_\_\_

healthy \_\_\_\_\_

exciting \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Question Time

Write a question below using at least 3 of the list words:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Dictionary Work

Sort the following list words in alphabetical order from 1 to 8.  
Write the 4th and 7th words below:

therapy    protect    exciting    uniform  
behaving    exercise    tumbleweed    Shepherd

4th word: \_\_\_\_\_

7th word: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the meaning of the word tumbleweed: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did the word Shepherd come from? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Murphy, 23 Care Dog

4

## Discussion Time

With a partner, discuss the different ways that working dogs can make a positive difference in peoples' lives. Talk about your favourite working dogs and write down your reasons why:

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5

## Comprehension

Why do Australian Shepherds make such good pets?

---

How do people know when Murphy is working?

---

What are the 4 things to think about before getting a dog?

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6

## Writing Time

Imagine yourself as the owner of a working dog and explain the jobs you both do and how you help your community:

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7

## Thinking Beyond the Text

Use the internet to find out more about working dogs – write down 4 amazing facts:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Boy in Buchenwald 24

## Word Bank

Buchenwald	soldiers	capture	conditions
barracks	starving	experiment	injection
Nazi	tongues	Jewish	Americans
concentration	bombers	political	
Germany	prisoners	disinfected	
factories	explosion	separated	
former	forgiven	survive	

Say each word out loud, breaking it down into syllables.  
Write the number of syllables beside each word.

1

### Vocab Builder – Synonyms

Find the synonyms (words with similar meaning) for the following words:

industries \_\_\_\_\_

previous \_\_\_\_\_

seize \_\_\_\_\_

sterilised \_\_\_\_\_

2

### Proper Nouns

Proper nouns name people, things, or places – write the 5 proper nouns from the word bank:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3

### Sentence Work (Cloze Activity)

Choose the correct words from the word bank to finish this sentence:

The \_\_\_\_\_ soldiers from \_\_\_\_\_ sent  
\_\_\_\_\_ people to a \_\_\_\_\_ camp in  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Boy in Buchenwald 24

4

## Discussion Time

With a partner, discuss how this story made you feel. Discuss why it is a hard but very important story to tell:

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5

## Comprehension

What did the German soldiers make the Jewish people wear?

---

Why did the German soldiers disinfect the prisoners?

---

Why were the American soldiers so upset when they arrived at Buchenwald?

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6

## Writing Time

Write a letter to Steffan telling him how his story made you feel. Include some positive messages to him about his amazing survival:

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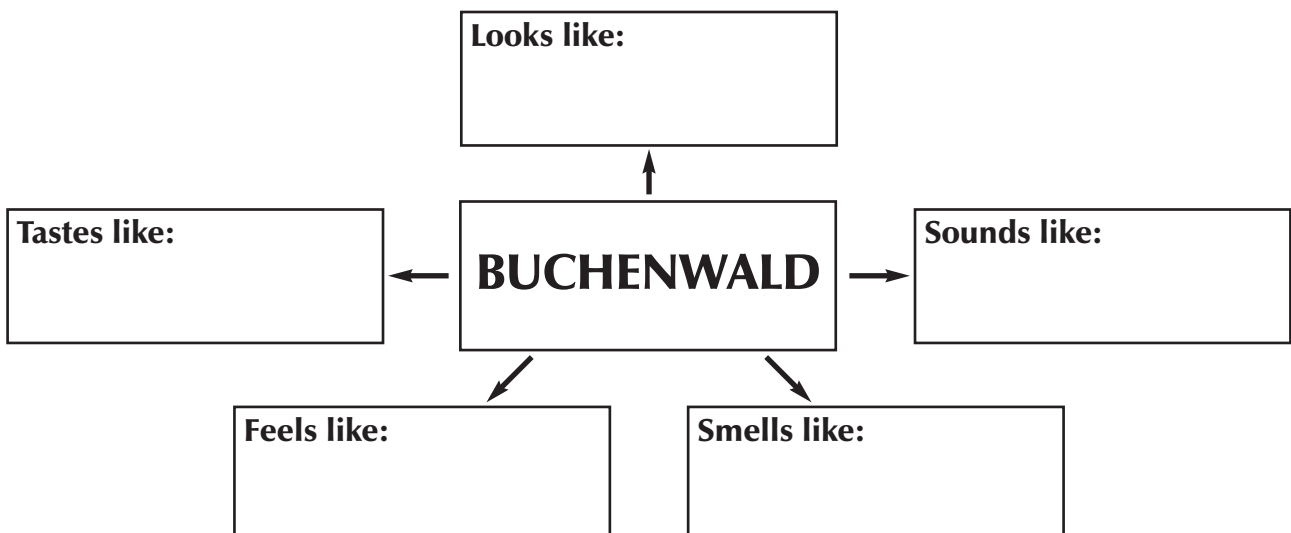
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7

## Make the Connections

Create a **Senses Chart** by adding words to each box that remind you of the story:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# My Wild Farm

25

## Word Bank

university	Antechinus	quoll	rainforest
ploughing	Australia	amazed	population
museum	protect	possum	manage
wildlife	curious	marsupials	wasteland
kangaroos	electric	nocturnal	rewilding
wallabies	collapsed	oxygen	grazing
special	breakfast	tropics	

Say each word out loud, breaking it down into syllables.  
Write the number of syllables beside each word.

1

## Spelling Builder

Add the missing letters to the list words below:

\_ e \_ i \_ d \_ n \_

\_ u \_ t \_ a \_ i \_

w \_ l \_ a \_ i \_ s

\_ o \_ t \_ r \_ a \_

m \_ s \_ u \_

2

## Vocab Builder – Compound Words

**Wildlife** is a compound word:

Wild / life

Find 3 other compound words from the list:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

3

## Dictionary Work

Sort the following list words in alphabetical order from 1 to 8.  
Write the 3rd and 7th words below:

rainforest    rewilding    ploughing    protect  
marsupials    nocturnal    tropics    oxygen

3rd word: \_\_\_\_\_

7th word: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the meaning of the word nocturnal: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# My Wild Farm

25

4

## Discussion Time

With a partner, discuss why this story is important at a global level and at a local level. Write a list of things your local community can do to help with rewilding:

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5

## Comprehension

What are the 2 rare Australian animals that the author saw on his farm?

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Why are people still clearing forests?

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---

Explain what the author means when saying "the forests are our lungs":

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6

## Writing Time

Using your list from **Discussion Time**, write a letter to your local council listing things that could be done to help rewild your local community:

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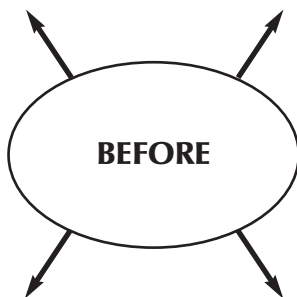
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7

## Before and After Chart

Complete the chart below with things you knew before and after reading the story:

What I knew before:



What I know now:

