My Journey Home Connection

This week your child is reading an informational text about the work of biologists to study the tree kangaroo.



Animal Facts Talk with your child about your favorite animals and then choose one to research. Using the Internet or animal books, find as many facts about your animal as possible. Try to find little-known information such as the following: average body temperature, number of teeth, sleeping habits.



Zoo Trip In this week's selection, *Quest for the Tree Kangaroo*, the lead biologist was inspired to study this endangered animal after visiting a zoo. Take a trip to a local zoo with your child and see what endangered animals live there, protected in environments similar to their natural ones.



If a trip to a zoo is not possible, look through magazines or books to see what endangered animals you can find.



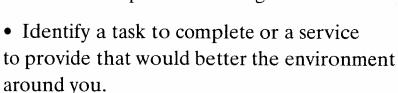
Vocabulary on the Go This week's selection focuses on the research and protection of endangered animals. Talk with your child about why it is important to protect animals that may be in danger of extinction. Try to use some of the following vocabulary words:

procedure presence outfitted transferred enthusiastic



Teamwork This activity provides an opportunity for you and your child to work together to make a difference in your home or community.

- Have your child tell how the biologists worked together to capture, study, and release the tree kangaroos.
- Talk with your child about the importance of teamwork. Share with your child a time when you worked as part of a team. Then ask your child to tell about his or her experience working with other people at school or on a team to accomplish something.





• Work as a team with your child to complete the task you chose. Ask your child to consider what to do if members of a group do not agree with something. Discuss with your child the importance of compromise.



Save Me! With your child, make a poster to spread the word about the need to save an endangered animal. Talk with your child to create a slogan and include colorful pictures or drawings of the animal if possible. Search the Internet for websites about endangered animals.



Book Links

- · Eyewitness: Endangered Animals, by Ben Hoare
- My Life with the Chimpanzees, by Jane Goodall CHALLENGE



Internet Challenge Go to the library or search the Internet to find out more about the work biologists do.

14

Home Letter

Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Home Letter

Dear Family,

This week we'll begin by reading the informational text **Quest for the Tree Kangaroo**, a story about a scientist's journey to find and research a rare creature. We'll find out answers to the question "Why is it important to research and protect endangered animals?" We'll also read the Australian Aboriginal myth **Why Koala Has No Tail**.

This week's...

Target Vocabulary: dwarfed, presence, procedure, outfitted, transferred, calculate, snug perch, enthusiastic, beaming

Vocabulary Strategy: Synonyms and antonyms

Comprehension Skill: Cause and effect—tell how events are related and how one event causes another (organizational pattern)

Comprehension Strategy: Question—ask questions about a selection before you read, as you read, and after you read

Writing Focus: Informative writing—procedural composition

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

Review this week's **Target Vocabulary** with your child. Together, use a thesaurus to see how many synonyms and antonyms you can find for the words.

Animal Rescue

Ask your child whether he or she would like to be a person who rescues endangered animals. Why or why not? Together, go online and research ways to help endangered animals.

How Helping Helps

Talk to your child about endangered animals and different causes, such as over fishing or loss of habitat. Then have your child write a paragraph about one of the endangered animals and the causes of its endangerment.



Go to the *eBook* to read and listen to this week's selection.

Quest For The Tree Kangaroo

- 1. glory
- 2. aware
- 3. carton
- 4. adore
- 5. aboard
- 6. dairy
- 7. ordeal
- 8. pardon
- 9. warn
- **10.** vary
- 11. barely
- 12. torch
- 13. barge
- 14. soar
- 15. beware
- 16. absorb
- 17. armor
- 18. stairway
- 19. perform
- 20. former
- 21. discard

- 22. forfeit
- 23. orchestra
- 24. rarity
- 25. hoard

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Name	Date	

Lesson 6 BLACKLINE MASTER 6.3

Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Vocabulary Word Cards

dwarfed	calculate
presence	snug
procedure	perch
outfitted	enthusiastic
transferred	beaming

Name	Date	
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Lesson 6BLACKLINE MASTER 6.4

The Lost World of Papua New Guinea Target Vocabulary

Target Vocabulary

Fill in the Flow Chart with sentences using the remaining Target Vocabulary words. Your sentences should create a story about exploring an island. The first events in the story are done for you.

dwarfed transferred perch
presence calculate enthusiastic
procedure snug beaming
outfitted

	The scientist was enthusiastic about exploring the island.	
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	She was outfitted with tools to help her find her way and record information.	
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Synonyms and Antonyms

Vocabulary Strategies: Synonyms and Antonyms

Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Read the thesaurus entries below. Then use the information in the box to fill in the blank to complete each sentence.

m	ortal (adj.) Synonym: deadly. Antonym: life-giving.								
in	intense (adj.) Synonyms: strong, powerful. Antonym: weak.								
yc	outh (n.) Synonyms: young person, child. Antonyms: grown-up, adult.								
1.	A synonym for <i>youth</i> is								
2.	An antonym for mortal is								
3.	Another word for <i>strong</i> is								
4.	Someone who is not a <i>child</i> is an								
5.	An antonym for weak is								
6.	A word with a similar meaning to <i>deadly</i> is								

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Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Vocabulary Strategies: Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and Antonyms

Read the words in the Word Bank. Then write one or two sentences for each word using a synonym and an antonym for the word. You may use a dictionary to help you.

		····· Word	Bank J		•••		
•	deadly	adolescent	aggressive	aquatic	9 5 9 9		
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Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Vocabulary Strategies: Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and Antonyms









Match each word to its synonym, or a word that means nearly the same.

Column 1

Column 2

A. brave

1. wealthy

B. rich

2. . nice

C. kind

3. fearless

Match each word to its antonym, or opposite.

Column 1

Column 2

A. juvenile

1. different

B. shout

2. adult

C. identical

3. whisper