Informational

Unit 13

Surfing in South Africa

by Victoria Crenson
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Gage and Phil are surfers. They surf every day. The beach where they surf has large waves.

Gage and Phil take their boards out into the water. They wait and watch for a big wave. Then they paddle hard to catch it. They stand up on their boards and ride along the edge of the wave.

“I like the large waves here,” said Phil. “But I would like to ride a huge wave.”

Gage nodded. “But where can we find huge waves?” he asked.

“I hear there are epic waves near Cape Town,” said Phil. “My uncle lives there. He has a lodge near the beach.”
“Which way to Cape Town?
When do we go?” shouted Gage.

Phil showed Gage where Cape Town
is on the map.

“Phone your uncle in Cape Town,” said Gage.
“Tell him when we will visit.
Tell him we will fly there next week.”

Phil was calm.

“How will we buy plane tickets, Gage.
Where will we get the cash to buy them?”

Gage was thinking.

“What if I sell my old surf board?
It is a classic board. It will bring a lot of cash.”

“You want to sell your good board?
You must want to go to Cape Town a lot!” said Phil.

“Think of the good waves,” said Gage.
“It will be an epic trip.”
Gage sold his old board.
Phil and Gage used the cash to buy plane tickets.
They packed their gear and got on the plane to Cape Town.
It was a long trip to the tip of Africa.

While they were flying, Phil told Gage about the whales.

“The whales come to Cape Town each year,” said Phil.
“They come to the warm water near the coast to have their babies.”

“Do you think we will see whales while we are surfing?” asked Gage.

“Maybe a whale will nudge your board,” Phil kidded.
Day 1 Classwork

Review  __________  __________  __________  __________  __________

**Word List 1**

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| fry | dry | fly | pry | shy | guy |

**Word Work**

___________ board will you sell?

**Team Talk Questions**

1. Why did Gage sell his surf board?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Why do whales come to the coast near Cape Town?

________________________________________________________________________

**Dictation**

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________________________________________________________________________
1. Practice reading the words in Word List 1. Have someone initial in a circle each time you read all the words on the list correctly.

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2. Practice reading “To Cape Town.” Have someone initial in a box each time you read the passage correctly and smoothly.

3. Play Quick Erase. Make a new word by changing one letter at a time. Be sure you can pronounce the new words you make.

cage ______________ ______________ ______________
Uncle Walter drove Gage and Phil over a ridge of mountains.

They came to his town on the bay.
“Here is where the whales come,” said Uncle Walter.
“People from all over the world come here to see whales.”

“What is that man doing?” asked Phil.
“He looks out for whales. When they are spotted, he yells out. Then the people come to the edge of the water to watch the whales swim.”
“Are whales a problem for surfers?” asked Gage.

“Will a whale bite a person?”

“No,” said Uncle Walter.

“The whales that come here are called right whales. Right whales eat small sea animals that look like shrimp.”

“That is good,” said Gage. “I do not look like a shrimp.”

Uncle Walter pointed to some islands out in the bay.

“If you want a thrill, go out there and do some cage diving.”

“Cage diving? What is that” asked Phil.
Uncle Walter told them about how divers get inside cages in the water.

Then they put meat in the water to draw great white sharks.

The sharks swim close to the cages.

“The divers like the thrill of seeing shark teeth up close,” said Uncle Walter.

“I think surfers do not like to see sharks up close,” said Phil.

Uncle Walter took them to his lodge near the beach.

“Here is your room,” he said.

“Drop your bags and I will show you the surfing beach.”

Phil and Gage grabbed their wet suits and hopped back in the truck.

Uncle Walter drove them to Sunset Beach.
Word Work

Ed had to clean the bird’s ____________.

Team Talk Questions

1. What do right whales eat?
2. What is cave diving?

Dictation
1 Practice reading the words in Word List 2. Have someone initial in a circle each time you read all the words on lists 1 and 2 correctly.

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2 Practice reading “Whales and Sharks.” Have someone initial in a box each time you read the passage correctly and smoothly.

3 Play Quick Erase. Make a new word by changing one letter at a time. Be sure you can pronounce the new words you make.

right __________ __________ __________
At Sunset Beach, Phil and Gage stood and looked at the waves for a while.

Gage smiled.

“Phil, these are the best waves I have seen in all my life.”

Phil agreed. “Let’s change into our wet suits and get out there.”

Phil and Gage took their boards and plunged in.

They pushed out past the surge of white water.

Then they lay down on their boards and paddled up and over each swell.

It was a good thing that the surfers had wet suits.

The water was very cold.
At a good spot, Phil and Gage turned their boards around.

“Here comes a huge one!” Phil yelled.
They paddled hard to keep up with the edge of the wave.
Then they stood up on their boards.

Uncle Walter took photos of the two surfers on the big waves.

Other surfers came to Sunset Beach.
These two surfers were from Australia.
There were also surfers from Japan and Mexico.
Gage had a chance to show off his surfing skills.

“Do not be shy,” Phil kidded.

After a while, Gage and Phil went out past the waves and rested on their boards.

Gage pointed. “What is that strange thing?” he asked.

“We are in luck!” said Phil.

“That is a right whale. It is very close.”

“That whale is huge!” said Gage. “It has to be 50 feet long!”

“You are right. I think it is bigger than a bus,” said Phil.
Review

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If you barge into its cage, the big cat will lunge.
I will use the sponge to clean the orange smudge.
He was in charge of the lodge.

Word List 3

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<th>Green Words</th>
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<td>nature</td>
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Word Work

Choose a picture from the reading. Write a sentence about the picture using one or more words from the word lists.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Team Talk Questions

1. What do you think wet suits are for?
________________________________________________________________________

2. How big is a right whale?
________________________________________________________________________

Dictation

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Practice reading the words in Word List 3. Have someone initial in a circle each time you read all the words on lists 1, 2, and 3 correctly.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word List 1</th>
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Practice reading “Surfing.” Have someone initial in a box each time you read the passage correctly and smoothly.

Fill in the blank. Choose the word from Word List 3 that makes the most sense in the sentence. Write it in the blank.

1. The girls ____________, so I can not hear them.

2. It is time to ____________ the old mat to a new one.

3. The ____________ of the crowd pushed him to the front.
Phil and Gage needed some sleep.  
They had been up for two days.  
Gage brushed his teeth and was about to get in bed.  

"Wait," said Gage.  
"Why is there a huge orange and white cat on the bed?"

"That is Large Marge. You can not move her," said Phil. "I tried. She will not budge."

Gage tried to nudge Large Marge off the bed. The cat just purred.  

"How can I sleep?" Gage whined.  
"This whopper cat is in the middle of my bed."
Phil yawned. “Stop whining, Gage. Just sleep on the edge of the bed.”

Phil had a good night’s sleep. Gage did not.

In the morning, Uncle Walter made them toast and eggs. “Now we will see some sights,” he said.

Uncle Walter drove them to the foot of a mountain.

“We call this Table Mountain,” he said. “It is flat on top like a table.”

They got on a cable car.

“We can ride this to the top of the mountain,” he said. “You will see the city from high up.”

The cable car went up and up and up.
At last the cable car stopped. Uncle Walter, Phil, and Gage got out. They were on the top of Table Mountain. "Wow, I can see all of Cape Town from here," said Gage.

Just then clouds moved over the top of the mountain. Soon they could not see the city below. "When white clouds cover Table Mountain, we call them the Table Cloth," said Uncle Walter.
Day 4 Classwork

Word List 1
Green Words
- edge
- lodge
- where
- which

Red Words
- board
- babies

Word List 2
Green Words
- phone
- when
- whale
- nudge

Red Words
- ridge
- world
- cage
- diving

Word List 3
Green Words
- what
- while
- thrill
- draw

Red Words
- change
- world
- whined
- cable

Word Work
They pushed on the door but it did not ________________.

Team Talk Questions
1. How do Phil, Gage, and Uncle Walter get to the top of Table Mountain?

2. What do Phil and Gage see on Table Mountain?

Dictation
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Day 4 Homework

1. Practice reading the words in Word Lists 1, 2, and 3. Have someone initial in a circle each time you read all the words on lists 1, 2, and 3 correctly.

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2. Practice reading “Large Marge.” Have someone initial in a box each time you read the passage correctly and smoothly.

3. Choose a picture from the reading. Write a sentence about the picture using one or more of the words from your word lists.

________________________________________________________________________
“Now I will show you a nature park,” said Uncle Walter.
They drove down the road for a short time.
Uncle Walter pointed.
“See that mountain ridge? We are going there.”

Uncle Walter was very proud of the park at Cape of Good Hope.
He was proud that the plants and animals of South Africa were safe in the park.

“You will see some amazing sights,” said Uncle Walter.
“But you must not pick plants or scare the animals.”
“We will not pick plants,” said Phil.

“And we will not be loud and scare the animals,” said Gage.

“We will whisper.”

They hiked up to the high cliffs above the sea.

There were trails at the top of the ridge.

Phil, Gage, and Uncle Walter hiked along a trail.

When they looked over the edge, they saw waves crashing below.

“Whoa!” whispered Phil. “Watch your step!”

By some big rocks, Uncle Walter stopped.

He pointed.

Phil and Gage stopped too. They looked and saw some animals.

Gage did not want to scare them.

He whispered, “They look like deer, but they are the size of my dog.”
Then at the edge of the trail Phil spotted a mom, dad, and baby baboon.

Phil almost shouted.
He grabbed Gage by the arm.
“Look!” he whispered. “This is the first time I have seen a baboon in my life.”

After a picnic on the cliff, Phil, Gage and Uncle Walter hiked down to a strip of beach. “You will see animals here too,” he said.

Gage looked out at the water.
“You mean we will see whales?” he asked.

“No, not whales,” said Uncle Walter.
“Turn around and look up the beach.”
Phil and Gage looked.
At first they just saw big round stones.
Then they had a shock.
The beach was full of birds.
They were penguins.

“In all my life, I have never seen a penguin,” said Phil.

“Well now we have,” said Gage.
“And they are cute.”
Day 5  **Classwork**

### Word List 1
**Green Words**
- edge
- lodge
- where
- which

**Red Words**
- board
- babies

### Word List 2
**Green Words**
- phone
- when
- whale
- nudge

**Red Words**
- mountains
- islands

### Word List 3
**Green Words**
- ridge
- world
- cage
- diving

**Red Words**
- change
- world
- thrill
- draw

**Red Words**
- change
- whisper
- surge
- whisper

### Word Work

Gage spoke in a _______________________ so he would not scare the animals.

### Team Talk Questions

1. What rules did Uncle Walter tell them about the park?

________________________________________________________________________

2. What animals did Gage and Phil see at Cape of Good Hope?

### Dictation

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I hope the boat floats
Show me the snow blower.
He liked my joke.
1. Practice spelling the words in Word Lists 1, 2, and 3. Have someone initial in a circle each time you spell all the words on lists 1, 2, and 3 correctly.

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2. Practice reading “Cape of Good Hope.” Have someone initial in a box each time you read the passage correctly and smoothly.

3. Choose a picture from the reading. Write a sentence about the picture using at least two words from your word lists.

________________________________________________________________________
This teacher edition is part of the Reading Edge, a comprehensive literacy program that arms students with the skills and strategies they need to read, understand, and learn from a wide variety of content-area texts.

The mission of the Success for All Foundation is to develop and disseminate research-proven educational programs to ensure that all students, from all backgrounds, achieve at the highest academic levels.

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