Dear Parents of Year 6 HID Children,

I have adapted the text of the first 3 chapters of a book we have been learning at school. It is called Kensuke’s Kingdom. Carol Mills, our Deaf Tutor has signed most of the book to them and we have started work on the story.

During the closure, children can read the text below and carry out the tasks. There is also a list of possible new words with the definitions. This is instead of the Year 6 English put on the matrix on the website. The maths and other activities not highly dependent on English are fine for them to do as well.

The children have already had time to go over much of the vocabulary and we have done some work on boats.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate the contact me.

Hope all is well,

Anne Pereira

Kensuke’s Kingdom Chapter 1 Peggy Sue

My name is Michael and when I was young, I lived with my mum and dad in a town in the North of England. I had a dog called Stella Artois. I went to St Joseph’s School with my mate Eddie Dodds. It was a happy time, playing football with Eddie after school at the park. Eddie was my best friend. Mum and dad worked at the brickworks which was a factory that made bricks. It was hard work. Dad always got dusty. Mum worked in the office.

Every weekend I delivered newspapers. I wanted a mountain bike so I saved the money I earned from the paper round. Sundays were special days because we went sailing on the dinghy at the reservoir. Stella always barked at the other boats. We loved sailing. The air was fresh and clean we loved feeling the wind blowing in our hair as we sailed. Mum always liked to steer using the tiller.

Life was great until we got the letter. Mum opened it and dad read it. They were being made redundant. They lost their jobs because there was no more work at the brickworks. Mum and dad tried to find another job but there was nothing. Everyone became miserable. We didn’t go sailing any more. Mum and dad were silent. They did not speak at home anymore. Dad didn’t fix anything around the house any more. I tried to stay out of the house and played with my football. Eddie moved away because his dad found a job down south.

One day dad left and mum was sitting on the stairs, crying. She said that he felt bad that his 11-year old son had a job and he didn’t. One week later, dad rang and asked us to meet him in Southampton. When we met him at the train station, he was different. He wasn’t miserable or depressed. He looked happy and excited. He wanted to show us something.

We caught a bus and got off right by the sea. There were no houses anywhere, just boats, all moored at the marina. ‘I want you to meet Peggy Sue’ said dad. We struggled with our suitcases, dragging them behind us as we walked along the marina. Suddenly dad stopped and pointed. We put the cases down and looked at a boat. It was a yacht bobbing up and down in the water. ‘Here she is – the Peggy Sue’ I wondered why dad was showing us this yacht. It was forty-two feet long.

‘We shall go sailing around the world!’ he shouted, ‘We love sailing right? We can’t get a job so we will go sailing. Mum can be skipper, and we can go anywhere we like.’ Dad kept on talking about all the places he wanted to visit and mum was very quiet. I was glad she didn’t shout at him. Eventually, mum’s face started to change and she became excited. I was really excited too!

There was a lot to do and plan. Mum leant how to sail and organised school books for me to take. Dad got everything we needed and packed it all into the boat. Gran was not happy. She thought it would be too dangerous. She scared me with her stories about pirates, storms, hurricanes, whales, sharks, giant waves, super tankers. Bill Parker, an old sailor taught us all how to sail. We practiced taking Peggy Sue out for a few days and back again. Mum got her skipper certificate which meant that she could sail a boat anywhere and be boss! She loved it.

So, on the 10th September 1987 we left, waving goodbye to Nan who waved back, crying. Eddie Dodds came with his dad to wave us goodbye too. He gave me a football for good luck. As we sailed out, past the Isle of Wight we were very quiet. The adventure had begun! We were very excited and scared at the same time.

Kensuke’s Kingdom Chapter 2 Water, Water, Everywhere

I started my ships log on the day we left. But there was not much time to sit and write. There was too much to do. We got wet a lot. Everything got wet and down below was very damp. When the sun shone, we put everything out on the deck to dry. We put up a great big washing line from bow to stern. I was always very busy. I had to help dad fix things as well as taking in the sail or winching in, letting it out or steering the wheel. I like steering the best. I also had to wash the deck and do the washing up and drying up after dinner. Stella was lazy. During rough days, she slept in the cabin. On sunny days she stood watch from the bow, looking for something to bark at.

The sea was vast. Most of the time we saw just the sea and the sky. When we saw something interesting, I took photos. We saw porpoises, dolphins, whales, sharks and turtles.

The storms were scary and we were always glad when they blew over. I still had school work to do. I had to find out about and make notes on the animals or fish we saw and the countries we visited. I had to draw and label the animals in my homework book. Mum taught me how to find out where we were on the map and write it all in the Ships Log every day. The Ship’s Log was a diary of what happened on the boat every day. That was my English homework. I was never good at English at school but once I started, I had lots to write about. I wrote everything that happened, what we saw and what it was like.

New Words:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| reservoir | a man-made lake |
| delivered | gave out to people |
| earned | got money from a job |
| dinghy | small boat (the one in this book had a sail) |
| steer | To turn something left or right to change direction |
| tiller | The part at the back of a boat you can move to make it go left and right (The Peggy Sue had a steering wheel at the front and moves the tiller at the back left and right) |
| silent | quiet |
| redundant | No longer needed. When there is no longer any work, people are made redundant. |
| miserable | very, very sad |
| moored | tied up, the way boats park  (*I park my car on the road. I moor my boat at the marina)* |
| marina | a place to moor (or tie up) boats |
| eventually | after a while |
| damp | a little bit wet |
| taking in the sail or winching in, | pulling a rope to let the sail down  winching = to turn a winch handle that holds the rope and pulls it for you |
| deck | The floor on the outside of the boat |
| bow | The front of the boat |
| stern | The back of the boat |
| vast | Very, very, very, very, big |
| blew over | finished or went away – only for storms |

*Tasks to Do:*

1. *Choose 10 words from the New Words list to learn for spelling. Write the shape for each word then write a sentence for each word.*
2. *Choose one of the animals or fish to look up on the computer and find out how long it is, where it lives and what it eats. Draw a picture and label it. Find out any interesting facts about it. You may like to make a project booklet.*

Kensuke’s Kingdom Chapter 3 Ship’s Log

One Page from the Ships Log:

|  |
| --- |
| **SHIP’S LOG OF:** Peggy Sue  **FROM:** Southampton **TO:** Around the World **DATE:** Oct 11th 1987 |
| Today I saw Africa!  It was in the distance but mum said it was definitely Africa. We were going down the west coast. Mum showed me on the chart. The wind will take us down the coast for a few hundred miles then across the Atlantic Ocean to South America. It’s the hottest day we’ve had. Dad’s very red in the face and the tops of his ears are peeling. Mum and I are brown.  We saw a flying fish today and Mum spotted a shark. It was a basking shark. I looked through the binoculars but it was hard to see. I wrote it in my homework book and looked it up. They are massive but they don’t eat people. They eat fish and plankton. I drew a picture and labelled it. I like doing my drawings. My best one is a flying fish.  I sent a postcard to Eddie from Cape Verde Islands. I wish he could be here.  Stella loves to chase the football around the cabin and pounce on it. One day she will puncture it. |

September 10th – date of departure

We left Southampton and sailed along the Bay of Biscay to La Coruna, in Spain. The wind was very strong through the Bay of Biscay. After a few days in La Coruna we went to the Azores. We saw gannets diving in the water.

October 11th

We sailed to the Canaries then Cape Verde Islands, sailing down the west coast of Africa. I sent a post card to Eddie from Cape Verde Islands.

November 12th

Arrived in Recife, in Brazil and stayed for 4 days. Dad fixed lots of things on the boat. I played football with dad on the beach and other children came and played with us. We showed them our photos.

November 16th

We left Recife to sail to Rio de Janeiro in South America.

December 25th

We left Rio de Janeiro and sailed past St Helena. We had Christmas on the boat at sea. We ate Christmas pudding that Gran made for us. I found out that Napoleon died in St Helena. I had to write about Napoleon.

January 1st

They arrived in Cape Town and stayed for a while to see Table Mountain and see elephants and lions in the wild! I drew lots of drawings of the animals.

February 7th

When sailing out in the Indian Ocean, Stella fell into the water and nearly drowned! We were on their way to Perth in Australia to see my uncle.

April 3rd

We arrived in Perth. Uncle John met us. We were really excited. We plan to stay six weeks. I want to see kangaroos, wombats and possums.

May 28th

We left Perth after 6 weeks with Uncle John, staying on his huge farm. He had lots of horses and I went riding with my cousins. I saw a snake called a Copperhead. Uncle John said it’s very dangerous. He told me to watch out for Redback spiders too. I sent Eddie a postcard of a wombat and a white cockatoo. They had really interesting animals around Uncle John’s farm. Now we plan to go to Sydney and explore the Barrier Reef, then go to the Coral Sea towards Papua New Guinea.

July 28th

It will be my birthday tomorrow. I will be 12 years old. Since leaving Sydney we have had lots of terrible storms. Now we are at the Carol Sea and it is much calmer. It was my turn to steer the wheel that night. Mum and dad are sleeping downstairs.

End of Ship’s Log! Why? I fell into the sea!

Stella came up onto the deck and started barking. I tried to get her to come back but she wouldn’t come. I went up to try and grab her but we both fell into the water. I shouted and tried to swim back. Mum and dad were asleep and they didn’t hear me. I swam and swam but the boat was too far away. I started to go under….

More New Words:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| distance | far away |
| spotted | saw |
| massive | very, very big |
| plankton | Very, very small plants and animals that live in the sea |
| cabin | where you sleep in a boat |
| pounce | jump |
| puncture | make a hole to make the air come out |
| gannets | large white sea birds |
| coast | Where the land meets the sea |
|  |  |

*Find Out:*

*How long is the journey so far? ................................................................................................*

*Who was Napoleon? …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………*

*Look up some facts about Napoleon. Write them in your HID book.*

*What countries are in the Atlantic Ocean? ……………………………………………………………………...*

*……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..*

*Find out about Cape Town and Table Mountain. What would you like to do if you went to Cape Town? Find pictures of places on the internet and name those places. Write why you would like to go there.*

*What animals would you like to see in Africa or Australia? Choose one and make a book of facts about it or write about it in your HID book.*

*Make a postcard to Eddie from Michael. One side is the picture and on the other side you need to write a message:*

*Dear Eddie,*

*(Tell Eddie where you are, what you have seen and what you think about it)*

*From Michael*