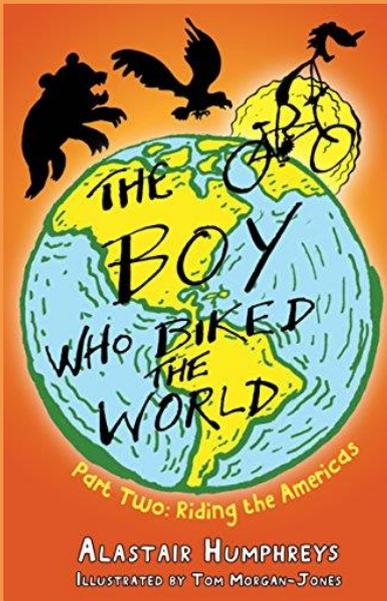


The Boy Who Biked The World – Part 2: Riding The Americas

by Alastair Humphreys

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Tom dreamed of being an adventurer. But people told him he was crazy, so he decided to prove them wrong by cycling round the world! The first book followed Tom across Europe and through the mysterious landscapes of Africa. In Part Two, Tom pedals north from the tip of South America up through the Americas towards Alaska. Based on the author's personal experiences and with engaging illustrations, maps and handwritten journal entries throughout, this book provides an immersive experience for any young adventurer. He must contend with deserts, jungles and the massive mountains of the Andes. He meets grizzly bears, fascinating locals, and even a memorable guinea pig. Tom learns about the world, and himself, as he tackles this epic journey.

Before reading...

Ask the children to look at the front cover. What do you think the book will be about? What things can you see on the front cover?

What sort of story will it be? Who might enjoy it?

Now read the blurb – were any of your predictions correct?

The following questions are designed as prompts only – allow the children to come up with their own questions and ideas. They will be much more engaged this way!

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence or Summarise



Banana Crisis On The High Seas	
Vocabulary	What is 'slow motion'? Define 'fretting'. What does it mean if you do something in the 'nick of time'? What is a 'pannier'?
Infer	Why was Tom sweating? Why did Captain Horrocks get embarrassed? Why do you think Tom thought it would be helpful to stay out of the way? Why did Tom throw up?
Predict	Predict how Tom will be turned into a 'proper sailor'.
Explain	How does the author incorporate facts into their writing?
Retrieve	What is the name of the main character? What was Tom worried about? Who had specifically told Tom not to miss the boat? Where was Damsel travelling to? What had Captain Horrocks forgotten to buy? Which animal is common on Table Mountain? Name two things Tom has with him that would require electricity.
Summarise	Summarise Tom getting onto the boat in one sentence.

Patagonia: Land Of Big Footed Giants	
Vocabulary	What does 'land ahoy' mean? What is a wing span? What is a headwind? Define 'colony'.
Infer	Why was Tom's enthusiasm waning? Why does Tom talk to the Albatross? Why was Tom struggling to cycle? Why would wind be bad news for a cyclist? Why don't the penguins reply?
Predict	Predict what Tom will see next on his adventures.
Explain	Why doesn't Tom imagine riding the whole 11,000 miles? Do you agree with his strategy? Why? Explain Tom's Alaska joke.
Retrieve	How far away is Alaska? What does 'Patagonia' mean? Which two countries will Tom be zigging in and out of? Name two animals Tom saw.
Summarise	Summarise Tom's thoughts about his journey with one sentence from his perspective.

Adventures In The Andes	
Vocabulary	Where are the Andes? Define 'steep'. What is an international border? Define 'rationing'.
Infer	Why wouldn't Tom want to live in one of the lone farmhouses? Why would Tom take his shoes and socks off to cross a river? Why was Tom rationing his food? Why do you think Tom took a photo of himself? Why would Tom prefer cycling downhill?
Predict	Predict what will happen next.
Explain	Do you think it would be peaceful or lonely to live in one of the farmhouses? Why do you think the author directly questions the reader? What is the effect of this?
Retrieve	What is mate? Why did Tom smell sometimes? What is a rhea? What were the two reasons that Tom could not go fast? Why did Tom put his pants on his head? What three things do you need to start a fire?
Summarise	Name some of Tom's thoughts in this chapter.

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Bolivia: A High, Cold World Of Wonders	
Vocabulary	What are llamas and alpacas? What is the 'altiplano'? What is a poncho?
Infer	Why was Tom finding it hard to get food? What type of people are Apo's family? How do you know? Why was the road Tom was on so hard to ride? What is a geyser? Why did Tom appreciate the salt flat?
Predict	Predict what might happen in La Paz.
Explain	Do you think you would like the silence that Tom experienced? Why?
Retrieve	What job did the wives and children do? What did Tom need to do before he could eat with the family? Where did Tom find water? Which country is Tom in? Why was the lake red? Where is Tom riding to?
Summarise	Choose one word to describe Apo's family and explain your choice of word.

The Witches Of La Paz	
Vocabulary	What does it mean to shudder? What does a cobbled street look like? What are superstitions?
Infer	Why would the cafes have been very simple? Why was the market place scary?
Predict	Based on the chapter title, predict what will happen in this chapter. Using a map, predict where Tom might go next.
Explain	Do you think people should learn about La Paz? Why?
Retrieve	What is distinct about La Paz? How many people live in La Paz? What food still makes Tom shudder? What was always at the top of the chicken soup? What were the dead llamas for?
Summarise	Use one sentence to summarise Tom's time in La Paz.

The Marvels And Mysteries Of Peru	
Vocabulary	What is a 'marvel'? What does it mean if something is an 'alternative'?
Infer	What are the boats made of and why? Why was Tom constantly going up and down?
Predict	Using a map, predict where Tom might go next.
Explain	What was the purpose of this chapter?
Retrieve	Which lake is on the border of Bolivia and Peru? Who did Tom meet by the lake? What is Machu Picchu?
Summarise	What do you think were the marvels and mysteries of Peru?

Lunch In Ecuador	
Vocabulary	What is the equator? What is cuy?
Infer	Why is Ecuador so hot? Why didn't Tom message his sister? Was this the right decision? How did Tom accidentally eat the guinea pig? Why was Tom learning Spanish?
Predict	How do you think Tom's sister would react if he told her?
Explain	What do the pages of Tom's journal add to the story?
Retrieve	How did Ecuador get its name? Where did Tom previously cross the equator? What is Tom's sister's guinea pig called?
Summarise	Summarise this chapter in one sentence?

Cycling Through Colombia	
Vocabulary	What is a 'snail's pace'? What is a 'junction'?
Infer	Why were people in Colombia so fast at riding bikes? What question does everyone always ask Tom - why do you think they ask this? Why was Tom cautious about advice not to visit certain countries? Why do people assume Colombia is dangerous?
Predict	Using a map, predict where Tom will arrive next.
Explain	What message do you think the author was trying to send with this chapter?
Retrieve	Who did Tom meet? Where were they going? What did Tom reach at the end of the chapter?

	What did Tom eat at the end of the chapter?
Summarise	Summarise Tom's experience of Colombia in one word and explain your choice of word.

Canals And Crocodiles	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if the jungle is 'dense'? What is a machete? Define 'half-submerged'.
Infer	Why did Tom have to go around the jungle? Why did Tom enjoy the rain? Why would you be a bit smelly cycling around the world?
Predict	Predict what will happen in this chapter based on the title.
Explain	Do you think the boys should be allowed to sell the lizard? Why?
Retrieve	What's the best way to get through a dense jungle? What does the Panama Canal link? Why were the boys selling the lizard? How long is the Panama Canal?
Summarise	Tell your partner what happened in this chapter.

Volcanoes, Jungles And Desert Mirages	
Vocabulary	What is a mirage? What is an active volcano? Which part of a volcano is the 'foot'? What is an evil dictator?
Infer	Why was Tom excited? Why was it a joy to ride on smooth tarmac?
Predict	Predict which bit of America Tom might go to (remember he is currently in Mexico).
Explain	Why do you think the author chose to include a recipe?

Retrieve	How many active volcanoes does Costa Rica have? Why do fireflies glow? What food did Tom really like?
Summarise	Summarise this chapter in one sentence.

Hollywood And Giant Redwoods	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you appreciate something? What does it mean if something happens 'gradually'? What does the author mean when they say that the highway 'hugs' the Pacific Ocean?
Infer	Why did Tom feel rich? Why did people cheer at Tom in San Francisco? Why didn't they clap?
Predict	Predict where Tom might go next. Use a map.
Explain	Why do you think this part of the journey felt more like a holiday to Tom?
Retrieve	What things shocked Tom about crossing into America? Where is the Grand Canyon? What is the second most popular tourist attraction in Arizona? Who used to be kept in Alcatraz? How long do Redwoods live for?
Summarise	Why do you think the author only spends a short amount of time talking about each place?

The Sea-To-Sky Highway

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Vocabulary	<p>What is 'uncertainty'?</p> <p>What is a 'gold deposit'?</p> <p>Define 'capsized'.</p>
Infer	<p>Why can't Tom believe the size of Canada?</p> <p>Why did Tom hate Canadian mornings?</p> <p>How did gold change everything?</p>
Predict	<p>What do you think would have happened if Tom had found gold?</p>
Explain	<p>Do you think Tom should have opened the tent? Why?</p> <p>Tom says he doesn't need to become a millionaire. What does this tell us about him?</p>
Retrieve	<p>Where is Tom now?</p> <p>Name three animals that Tom saw.</p> <p>What animal was rustling Tom's tent?</p> <p>What is unique about the Yukon?</p> <p>How do you search for gold in the Yukon river?</p>
Summarise	<p>Summarise what the Gold Rush was.</p>

The Tom-Tiki	
Vocabulary	What is an 'expedition'? What synonym could have been used for 'hatching'?
Infer	Why can the fire brigade sometimes not put the fires out? Why does Tom's heart sink? Why was Tom's time on the raft enjoyable? Why was Tom sad to see his raft go?
Predict	Predict what will happen in Dawson City.
Explain	What do you think are the pros and cons of being a daydreamer like Tom?
Retrieve	What could Tom smell? How do forest fires start? How large is the fire? How does the police officer suggest that Tom could continue his journey? What doubts did people have about Tom's idea to paddle? What did Tom name his raft?
Summarise	Write a diary entry from the perspective of Tom about the events of this chapter.

Alaska: The Final Road To The Midnight Sun

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Vocabulary	What is 'revving up' speed?
Infer	Why did it feel good to be back on the bike? Why was the guard so shocked? Why do you think not many people live in Alaska? Why was there snow on the mountain despite Tom being hot?
Predict	Predict how the story will end. Predict what will happen in the next book.
Explain	Did you like this story? Why? Write a review. What is the moral of the story?
Retrieve	What did the guard give to Tom? Why? How many kilometres had Tom ridden? Where does Tom still have to cycle?
Summarise	Summarise the entire story in fewer than 100 words.

Chapter Fifteen

Chapter Fifteen	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Sixteen	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Seventeen	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	

Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Eighteen	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Nineteen

Chapter Nineteen	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-One	
Vocabulary	
Infer	

Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-Two	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-Three	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-Four	
Vocabulary	
Infer	

Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-Five	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	

Chapter Twenty-Six

Chapter Twenty-Six	
Vocabulary	
Infer	
Predict	
Explain	
Retrieve	
Summarise	