

Shark Beneath the Reef
Vocabulary

Vocabulary - Chapter 1

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **gargantuan** - The whale seemed to be of **gargantuan** size compared to the goldfish.
2. **vanquish** - The cyanide will completely **vanquish** the fish population that lives in the near-by waters.
3. **quest** - It was Maggie's **quest** to stop the senseless killing of the living reef.
4. **cavernous** - Maggie saw the **cavernous** mouth of the whale shark as it opened its huge jaws to swallow up the many fish that were its dinner.
5. **perilous** - Dude thought that it might be too **perilous** to swim close to the killer shark.
6. **strenuous** - It was **strenuous** work for the men aboard the fishing vessel to pull the heavy fish nets aboard the boat.
7. **billowed** - Maggie watched the beautiful sail of the sailboat as it **billowed** out into the wind.
8. **floundered** - As the wind became stronger, the tiny boat **floundered** in the

waves.

9. **abundant** - "There are so many shells on the beach that there seems to be an **abundant** supply," noted Barbara.

10. **emphatically** - "I firmly believe that we must protect the beautiful and fragile coral reefs," said Maggie **emphatically**.

Use the crossword template to make up your own crossword puzzle. Write the words in the squares first. Then go back and make up clues for each word going across and up and down. Use what you learned from the contextual clues to help you. You may look the words up in a dictionary if you need help. Trade papers with a friend and try to solve each other's crossword puzzles.

Vocabulary - Chapter 2

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **despaired** - Maggie **despaired** when she learned that cyanide was too often used in the ocean to kill fish.
2. **jutted** - The edge of the rock **jutted** out into the ocean and this allowed Dude to climb back onto dry land.
3. **triumphed** - Tomás wanted to believe that good **triumphed** over evil.
4. **galleon** - Maggie listened to the people talk about the Spanish ship that had sunk near the coast. They even sold postcards of this Spanish **galleon** that rests on the ocean floor.
5. **torrential** - Dude had to shake himself several times when he came into the hut after running out in the **torrential** rain.
6. **panoramic** - Maggie's uncle took some gorgeous pictures of the **panoramic** views he could see from his airplane.
7. **massive** - Dude quickly swam away when he saw the **massive** form of a whale shark swimming towards him.

8. **sparsely** - Maggie looked at the **sparsely** populated beach and wondered where everyone had gone.

9. **vulnerable** - The tiny angelfish seemed delicate and **vulnerable** as the cyanide was dumped into its home waters.

10. **solitary** - There was only a **solitary** diver on the reef when Maggie and Dude arrived to explore.

Write a sentence using as many of the vocabulary words as you can. Make sure that your sentence still makes sense. Trade with a friend and see if you can understand each other's sentence!

Vocabulary - Chapter 3

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **disillusioned** - Maggie was **disillusioned** and saddened to think that there were people in the world who did not respect the reef.
2. **ambled** - Maggie's uncle **ambled** out to the plane slowly eating an apple and thinking about the marvelous sights he had seen.
3. **scurried** - Dude turned his head and watched as the little crabs **scurried** over the sand.
4. **duration** - Uncle told Maggie to keep her seatbelt fastened for the **duration** of the trip.
5. **plunged** - Dude watched as his precious bone **plunged** into the ocean and sank out of sight.
6. **contemplated** - When Maggie found the cyanide container she **contemplated** what her next step should be.
7. **loomed** - A dark shadow **loomed** over the ocean floor when a huge fishing vessel passed overhead.

8. **clambering** - Maggie struggled to hold onto her camera as she was **clambering** up the side of the boat.

9. **voracious** - Maggie and Dude watched as the whale shark seemed to eat a thousand fish. "He certainly does have a **voracious** appetite," laughed Maggie.

10. **formidable** - Dude looked at the **formidable** steel door separating him from his food and thought he would never eat again!

Draw a sketch of an ocean scene. You may want to draw a beach, coral reef, or a solitary island. Label your scene using as many vocabulary words as you can. For example: Maggie is standing thinking and looking at several crabs moving in the sand. Your caption could read - **Maggie contemplates the scurrying crabs.** Remember you can change the form of the base word by changing endings!

Vocabulary - Chapter 4

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **anchovies** - There appeared to be a silver streak in the water as the small **anchovies** swam by.
2. **bombarded** - The small children **bombarded** each other with handfuls of sand as they played on the beach.
3. **omen** - Maggie saw the brilliant sunset and felt it was an **omen** that tomorrow would be a lovely day.
4. **hospitable** - The local people were quite **hospitable** and asked Maggie and Dude to join them for their annual feast.
5. **beckoned** - Maggie **beckoned** with her hand for Dude to come.
6. **spacious** - When Maggie walked into the lab she saw a few testing stations and a large aquarium at the far end of the huge room. "There is quite a lot of room in your lab. It is **spacious**," she observed to the marine biologist.
7. **restraint** - Dude showed a lot of **restraint** when he just sat quietly and watched the cat walk in front of him.

8. **forbearance** - Despite the fact that Maggie wanted the harbor police to investigate immediately, she showed a lot of **forbearance** by waiting until they felt the time was right.

9. **reminiscent** - The beautiful paintings in the foyer of the museum were **reminiscent** of a time when the coral reefs were not in danger.

10. **sluggish** - As the cyanide took effect, the shark become **sluggish** and then hardly moved at all.

Uses three of the vocabulary words from Chapter 4 and write a paragraph about any animal.

Vocabulary - Chapter 5

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **mosaic** - Maggie's uncle watched as the workers laid the tiny colored stones on the floor to form a beautiful **mosaic**.
2. **retorted** - The fisherman **retorted** in a loud voice, "I will not stop dumping cyanide," when he was ordered to do so by the harbor patrol.
3. **infirmary** - The little boy who had broken his leg, lay in bed in the **infirmary** waiting for it to heal enough to use crutches.
4. **edible** - Dude began to drool when he smelled the lunch bag and discovered something **edible** was in it.
5. **reverently** - Maggie watched as the townspeople folded their hands and **reverently** walked into the church.
6. **whittled** - The woodcarver took out his knife and **whittled** a carving of a parrotfish for Maggie.
7. **luxurious** - The boat with the fancy furniture, carpeting, and well-equipped eating area appeared **luxurious** next to the tiny fishing boat.

Make up a word search using these words and any others from previous chapters. Give clues as to the word's meaning rather than merely telling what word to look for. Trade with a friend to do the word searches!

Vocabulary - Chapter 6

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **vaulted** - As Matthew ran to catch the boat, he **vaulted** over five old tires that were in his way.
2. **incredulously** - John couldn't believe his ears when he heard about the cyanide poisoning of fish. He looked **incredulously** at the scientist as she explained it.
3. **combustible** - The wood that was soaked in oil was in danger of catching on fire so the beach patrol put up a sign that said "Keep Out - **Combustible!**"
4. **strutted** - Maggie laughed as the rooster **strutted** up and down the barnyard. It was as if he knew he were being watched.
5. **lunged** - As the homerun baseball flew into the stands, the crowd **lunged** forward to catch it.
6. **din** - The songs of the band could hardly be heard above the **din** of the crowd that had gathered in the street.
7. **cascade** - When Maggie visited Africa, she was impressed by the **cascade** of water as it fell over the rocks at the lovely waterfall.

8. **spectacle** - It was such a funny **spectacle** to see the animals dressed in costumes and being paraded down the street by their owners.

Many of the words from this chapter can be illustrated in simple cartoons. Draw cartoons to show at least three of these words. Display your favorite cartoon and see if others can guess the word it illustrates.

Vocabulary - Chapter 7

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **merge** - "Meet me at the point where the two rivers **merge** into one," called Maggie's uncle to the scientist.
2. **romped** - Dude and the dogs on the island **romped** together in the morning sunshine before flopping, exhausted, under the tree to sleep.
3. **honing** - The fisherman was **honing** his knife against the piece of stone in preparation for cleaning the fish.
4. **wafted** - The smell of the popcorn **wafted** into the classroom and all the students begged the teacher to get the newly popped treat for them, too.
5. **pondered** - After Maggie found the cyanide, she sat on the beach and carefully **pondered** what her next move would be.
6. **exquisite** - The lacy and delicate coral was so **exquisite** that Maggie snapped several pictures of it to show to her uncle.
7. **luster** - "I love the way that the rocks take on such a **luster** when you put them in the water. They truly shine and you can see the colors so clearly," noted Maggie.

8. **choreography** - It was as if the tiny fish had watched dancers and were imitating the **choreography** of the ballet as they delicately moved about the reef.

9. **alighting** - The tourists laughed when the sea gulls were **alighting** on the deck of the sight-seeing boat and stealing the snacks dropped by the children.

10. **sculling** - Maggie picked up the oars from the bottom of the small boat and began **sculling** to the island.

Use as many of these words and words from previous lists to construct a crossword puzzle for a classmate. Be sure to give great clues!

Vocabulary - Chapter 8

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **peered** - The hungry child **peered** into the dark room hoping to see the chocolate chip cookies he loved to eat.
2. **delicacies** - My mother likes the **delicacies** of lobster and caviar. I just like plain old fishsticks!
3. **ingenious** - "It was quite **ingenious** of José to build that whizbang. I was impressed," commented the boy from the soccer team.
4. **occupants** - Maggie knocked on the door of the beach house hoping to find the **occupants** home. When no one answered she wondered if anyone lived there at all.
5. **thrashed** - The huge fish **thrashed** around in the bottom of the boat after the fisherman pulled it from the sea. "Wow, this one really wants to go back in the water," he noted.
6. **crevice** - "It's gone," screamed the mountain climber as the camera fell down into a deep **crevice**.
7. **elusive** - "The question of why people would want to harm these beautiful reefs

is still **elusive** to me," remarked Maggie to her uncle.

8. **accelerated** - The fishing boat captain **accelerated** the motor of the boat in an attempt to outrun the *oficiales*.

9. **docile** - "I really like those **docile** whale sharks," said Greg to Maggie. "You know, I am afraid of the dangerous great white and hammerhead sharks."

10. **taut** - "Please hold the string **taut** at the finish line so we can easily see who breaks it first," advised the race official.

Sketch a picture of a scene. Show as many words as you can in your sketch and label the pictures. For example: "This is a boy **peering** into a **crevice**."

Vocabulary - Chapter 9

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **aerated** - The repairman said we need to add more air to the machine to make it work correctly, so he **aerated** it for us.
2. **devoid** - After the cyanide was sprayed on the reef, it quickly became **devoid** of life.
3. **stealthily** - Maggie did not want to be seen by the people on the large commercial fishing boat so she moved **stealthily** along the deck.
4. **queried** - Maggie wanted to know more about diving in the area so she **queried** the local people for information.
5. **agility** - The gold medal skater was graceful and moved with great **agility** on the ice.
6. **cordially** - Because he is always polite, Maggie's uncle **cordially** answered the mean questions of the airport official.
7. **regally** - People say that Melissa reminds them of royalty because she always stands **regally**.

8. **condescending** - The students didn't like it when the teacher seemed not to respect their opinions and spoke to them in a **condescending** voice.

Make up three characters and write a one or two sentence description of each.
Use at least one vocabulary word for each character.

Vocabulary - Chapter 10

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **ebbing** - Because the tide was **ebbing**, the children were able to find many shells on the beach that had recently been deposited there.
2. **lingered** - Maggie loved the beautiful display showing the history of the people so she **lingered** there much longer than she should have and was late to meet her uncle.
3. **stride** - The three year old child tried to match the **stride** of the older boys, but he just couldn't walk that fast.
4. **dismantled** - Jill looked at the **dismantled** washing machine and wondered if Tim would ever fit all the parts back together again.
5. **jostling** - The mother held tightly to her little girl's hand and moved her through the **jostling** crowd that had gathered to meet Santa Claus.
6. **musings** - After viewing the play, Tomás spent a few moments **musings** over the meaning of the struggle between good and evil.
7. **pivoted** - When he heard his name called from the opposite direction, José **pivoted** to see who wanted him.

8. **succumbed** - My two year old sister refused to take a nap, but after an hour battle, she finally **succumbed** and hugged her teddy bear as she slept.
9. **prevailed** - A.G. wanted a new puppy but his parents said no. After two weeks of begging he finally **prevailed**, and his dad brought home a cute yellow lab.
10. **laden** - Because I was so hungry, I felt great relief when I saw a food cart **laden** with all kinds of goodies.

Write 3 sentences. Try to use two of the vocabulary words in each sentence.

Name _____

Vocabulary - Chapter 11

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **jubilant** - When the soccer team won the state championship, the players were **jubilant** all during the bus ride home.
2. **charred** - The beachcombers came upon the **charred** remains of the bonfire that had taken place the night before on the beach.
3. **crooned** - The audience laughed as the out of tune singer **crooned** a love song to his dog.
4. **caressing** - The old woman sat in the rocking chair and was lovingly **caressing** the picture of her new granddaughter.
5. **pungent** - The children ran from the house when their mother began cooking the cabbage because they couldn't stand the **pungent** odor.
6. **infectious** - "I like the scene in *Mary Poppins* when Uncle Albert begins laughing. It is so **infectious** that soon everyone is giggling with him," laughed Jennifer.
7. **meridian** - The mother wanted to get her children into the shade before the sun reached the **meridian** at noon.

8. **conquistador** - We were studying the Spaniards who conquered Mexico, and I had to do a report on the **conquistador**, Cortes.

9. **quell** - It was difficult for Maggie to **quell** her horror when she found the container of cyanide.

Make up a word search with these words and others from previous chapters. Do not give the words but rather give definitions as clues!

Vocabulary - Chapter 12

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **elite** - Because the school was only for the **elite**, the children of the poor were not permitted to attend.
2. **askew** - The children laughed when Dude jumped on the ice cream vendor and knocked his hat **askew**. The vendor did not stop to straighten it, but instead bent down and gave Dude an ice cream cone!
3. **flourish** - In the play the young man was to bow before the princess with a **flourish**, but the actor fell on his face instead!
4. **anguish** - "I'm hurt! I'm hurt!" screamed the boy in **anguish** when he fell from his skateboard while attempting an ollie.
5. **evade** - Because the crook did not want to tell the truth, he tried coughing so as to **evade** the lawyer's question.
6. **audible** - "I think it is amazing," noted Maggie, "that dogs can hear sounds we humans can't. Dude can hear a tiny noise that isn't even **audible** to me."
7. **writhing** - "Look! Those two students ran into each other as they were racing to be on time. They are **writhing** in pain on the floor. We must call the school

nurse!" shouted the hall monitor.

8. **serenely** - All seemed peaceful in the mid-afternoon sun. Even the dogs sat **serenely** under the tree taking their naps.

Draw a picture for as many of these words as possible. See if a friend can look at your sketches and guess the word you were drawing!

Vocabulary - Chapter 13

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **refuse** - The custodian took the **refuse** from yesterday's school lunch to the trash can.
2. **odoriferous** - The perfume counter is always an **odoriferous** spot in any department store.
3. **diabolical** - The actor who played the bank robber always had a **diabolical** look on his face.
4. **stance** - The golfer took great care to get his **stance** just right as he prepared to make the important putt.
5. **parched** - Because he had nothing to drink during the day he spent on the ocean, Dude's mouth was **parched** when they arrived back at shore.
6. **precedence** - "It is more important for you to get a ticket for the movie so I think you should take **precedence** over me in the line," said the teacher to her student.
7. **bravado** - The bully seemed to lose his **bravado** when the school principal, Mr. Hart, appeared on the playground.

8. **deceitful** - It was **deceitful** of the girl to copy from her friend's test paper and then lie to the teacher about it.

9. **ally** - The United States wanted to help France during World War II. The U.S. was the **ally** of the French people.

10. **mesmerized** - The class was so impressed by the great painting that they stood **mesmerized** in front of it for ten minutes during the field trip to the art museum.

Write a commercial for a product that you make up. Try to use as many vocabulary words in your ad as you can!

Name _____

Vocabulary - Chapter 14

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **deluged** - After the heavy thunderstorm **deluged** the town, the children enjoyed playing in the big puddles that were left behind.
2. **tumultuous** - There was a **tumultuous** roar from the people when José's fantastic Roman candle was lit.
3. **abate** - Maggie walked out on the balcony when the storm began to **abate** and saw a beautiful rainbow!
4. **yearned** - The young orphan **yearned** for a kind family to adopt him and a dog to play with him.
5. **emitted** - The secret radio **emitted** a low buzzing sound and the spies were discovered by the enemy.
6. **plaintive** - It was midnight at the campground, and Ann tossed in her sleeping bag when she heard the **plaintive** howl of coyotes in the distance.
7. **rookery** - It was Emma's job to care for the **rookery** of penguins at the aquarium. She especially enjoyed watching the babies waddle next to their mothers.

Write down these vocabulary words and words from other chapters on small pieces of paper. Tape each word to a person's back. Make sure they don't see what the word is. Each person must ask others yes or no questions to find out what word is taped to their back. See who guesses quickly. What kinds of questions did they ask? Is it important to find out what part of speech you are?

Name _____

Vocabulary - Chapter 15

Read the sentences and see if you can use the context to decide what the word means. Circle each word that you believe you know.

1. **burden** - The donkey carried a heavy **burden** of two knapsacks up the steep hill.
2. **contempt** - "I can't believe that you wouldn't help your little brother," said Kevin with **contempt** in his voice.
3. **abruptly** - The well trained dog **abruptly** turned around and ran to his master when he heard his name called.
4. **routed** - The defeated army was **routed** off of their own land by the invading country.
5. **gala** - Claudia bought seven new dresses for the many **gala** events she planned to attend that spring.

Make up a multiple choice quiz to give to a friend using as many of the vocabulary words from this book as you can. Good Luck!