

High Wire

by Ali Everts

Summary

A boy visits his cousin in Australia, and they go on a camping trip. They learn the importance of safety on a ropes course the hard way.

Features of the Text

- First-person narrative
- Realistic fiction
- Descriptive language
- Interaction between the characters

Purpose

High Wire can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- exploring the factual information in a fiction text;
- making personal connections with the text;
- exploring narrative structure and character development;
- making inferences.

Guided Reading Summary

Introducing the text

Look at the illustration on the cover of the book and discuss the students' experiences of extreme activities.

- *How would you feel if you were doing this?*
- *How is the boy staying safe?*

Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 4 to identify who is telling the story.

- *Where do you think the narrator is from?*
- *How is the narrator different from his cousin? How do you know?*

Encourage the students to support their answers with references to the text.

The students can now read to the end of page 10.

- *Why is there tension between the narrator and Sam?*
- *Have you ever been in a similar situation?*

The students can now read the rest of the story.

- *How does Sam's character change during the story?*

Discuss the importance of using safety equipment and following the rules when taking part in an extreme sport.

Following Up

The students can:

- use the copy master on page 79 to write alternative endings for the story
- choose an extreme sport and list the rules and the safety equipment that would be needed
- explain the rules that the narrator broke and why they are important.