

No Safe Place

by Norman Bilbrough

Summary

A space shuttle lands on planet Thork, looking for a spacecraft that crash-landed four days earlier. The crew encounters many strange creatures and environments in their search for the missing craft.

Features of the Text

- Narrative text with action and dialogue
- Futuristic setting and illustrations
- Interaction between the characters
- Direct speech
- Science-fiction vocabulary and conventions

Purpose

No Safe Place can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- analyzing the features of science-fiction writing;
- exploring the narrative structure and character development;
- developing a sequence of events;
- summarizing and restating information.

Following Up

The students can:

- use the copy master on page 43 to record the ways in which each creature has adapted to the different habitats on Thork
- draw a map of Thork to show the different landscapes and to identify the danger zones
- write another chapter explaining what happens next.

Guided Reading Summary

Introducing the text

Discuss what is happening in the illustration on the cover of the book and the clues that show the story is set in the future. Encourage the students to talk about the science-fiction stories they have read.

Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 5.

- *Why has the crew landed on the planet?*
- *Why are they surprised to see antels?*
- *Why are they being so careful?*

Ask the students to read to the end of page 9.

- *How has the landscape changed?*
- *What dangers have the crew faced?*

The students can now read the rest of the story.

- *How have the creatures on Thork adapted to living in their different habitats?*
- *What happened to the crew from Seeker?*
- *Why might this have happened?*