



Collins
BIG CAT
Phonics

for Letters and Sounds



The Equator

Angie Belcher

Practising phonics: Phase 5

- Your child is learning that phonemes (letter sounds) can be written in different ways.
- Point and say each phoneme together.

/ai/ eigh a

/igh/ y

/ee/ y e e-e ey

/s/ se

/w/ wh

/v/ ve

/l/ le

/j/ g ge

/f/ ph

/c/ ch t

/z/ se

/ch/ tcht

- Read the words together.

heavyweight Equator dry extremely stretch
huge imaginary middle geography whilst
observe use

Common exception words:

of to the into their people

Check understanding

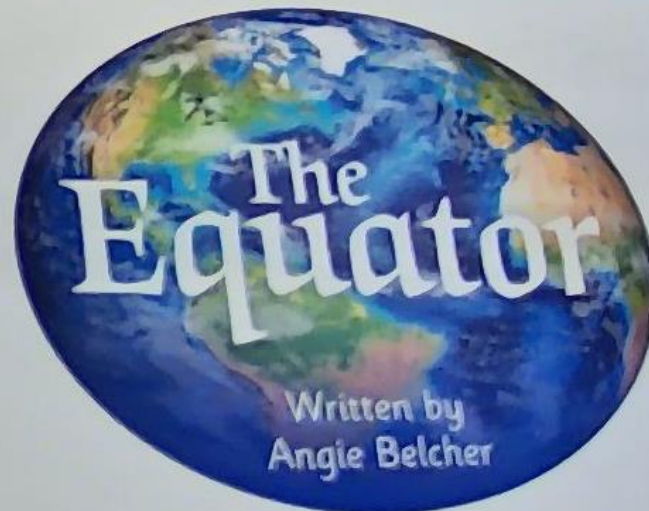
- Ask your child what these words mean.

migrate parched moisture atolls evolved

Talk about it

- Do you know what the Equator is?
- If so, what do you already know about the Equator? (If not, explain that the Equator is an imaginary line that goes around the middle of the earth.)
- Explain that this book is about the different places the Equator runs through. Look at the cover together and the picture on pages 2-3.
- Now read the book. Enjoy looking at the pictures and talking about them.

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Collins

What is the Equator?

If you look closely on a globe, you will observe the line of the Equator.

People navigate using this imaginary line that goes around the middle of the earth.

the Equator

Andes mountains



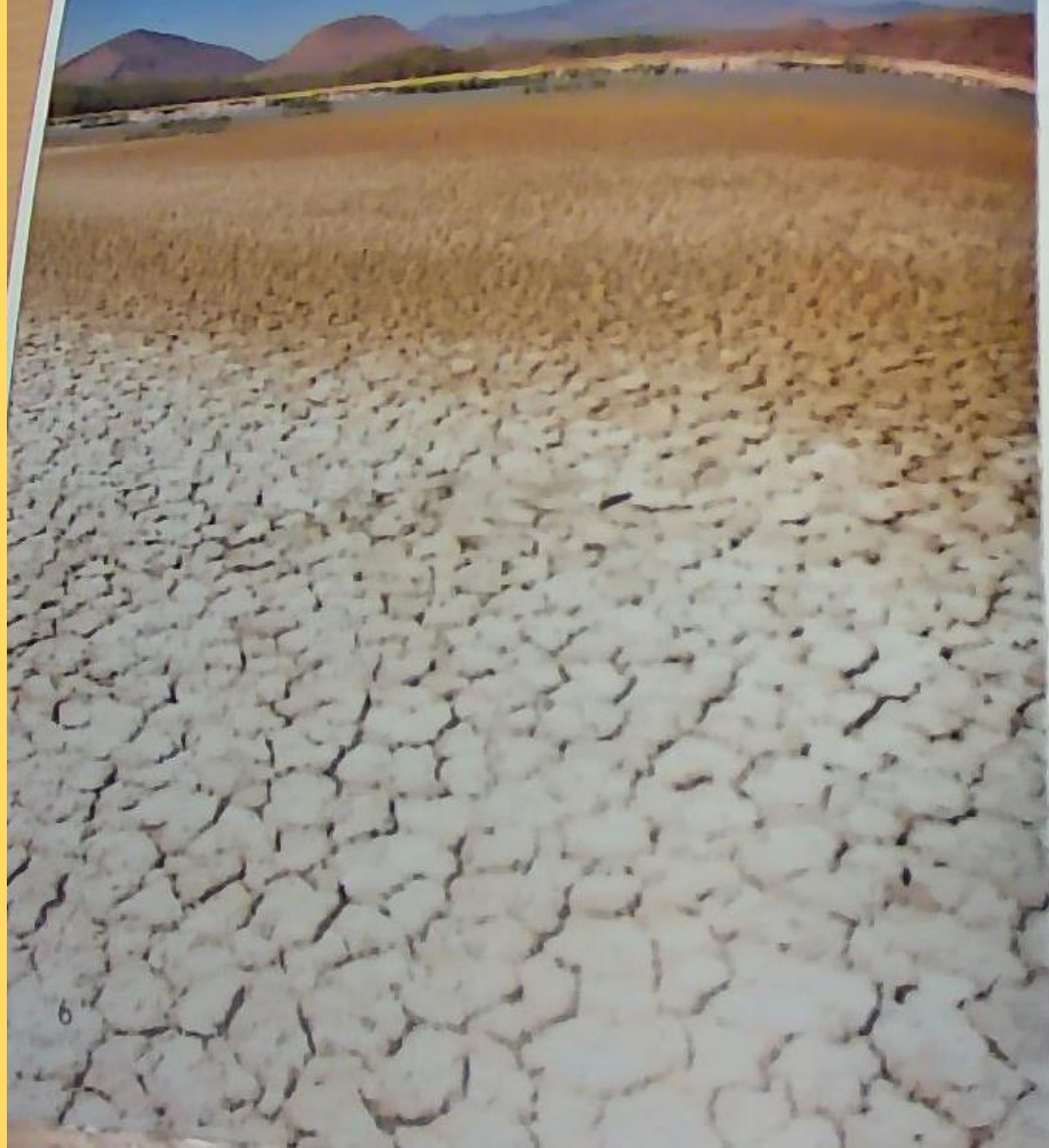
What is the weather like?

The earth bulges in the middle which means the land along the Equator is closest to the sun.

The weather is extremely hot, and the heat makes rain clouds so it's also very wet.



In the dry season, the land becomes parched and crops don't grow.



When the heavy rain arrives, the rivers overflow and wash everything away.



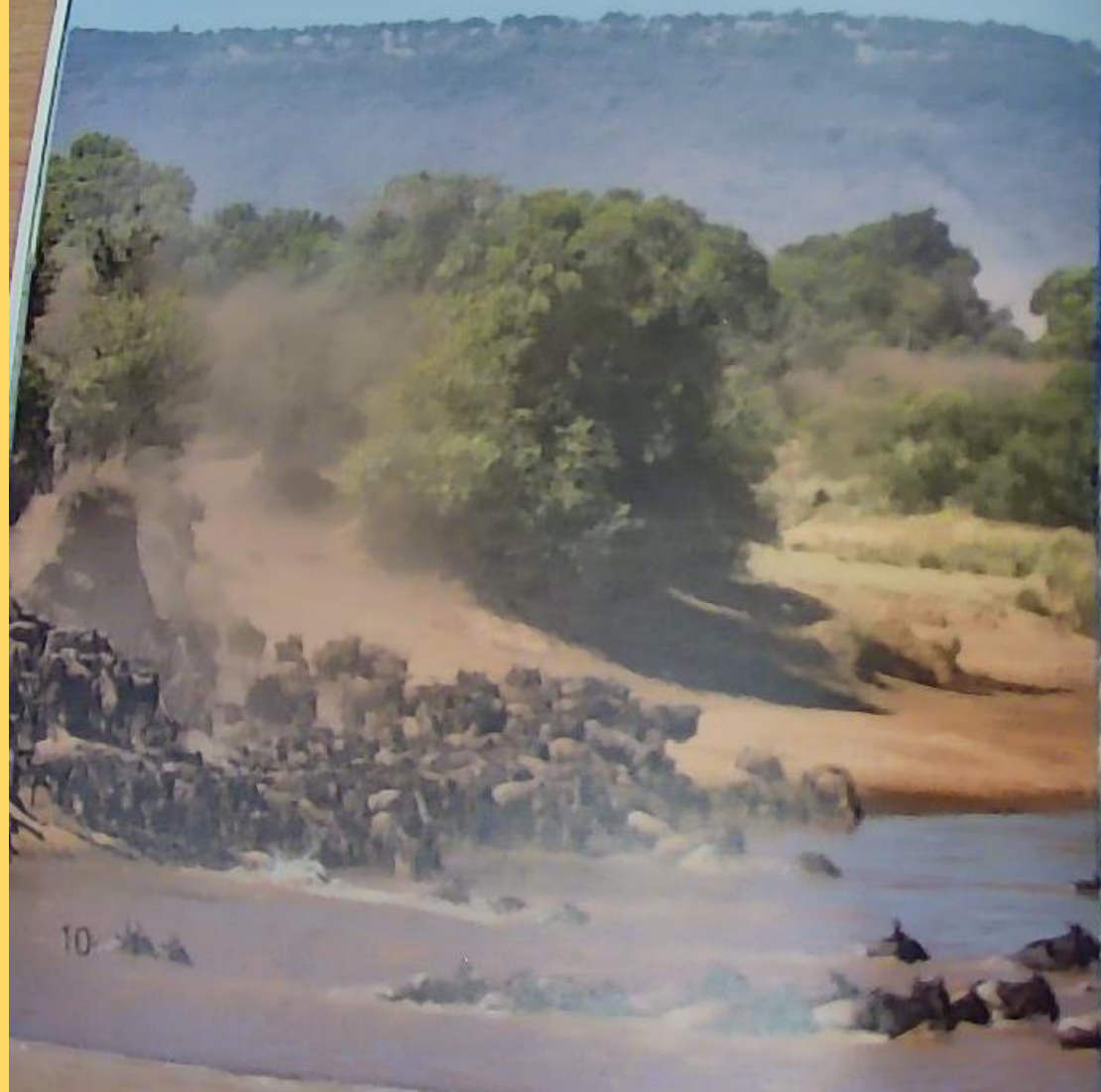
What is the geography like?

The Equator crosses 14 territories ranging from snow-capped mountains to huge sand dunes.

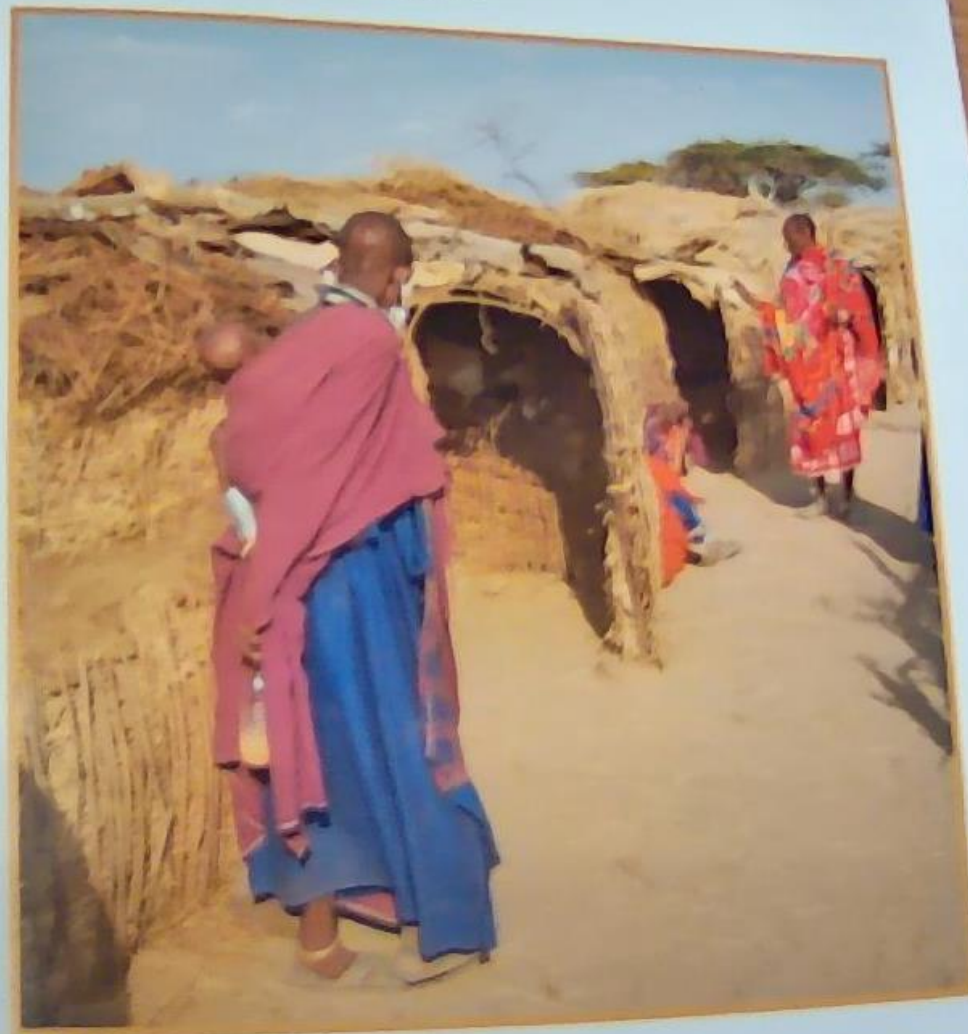


The dry

In the dry heat of Kenya, wildlife migrates across the land looking for food and drink.

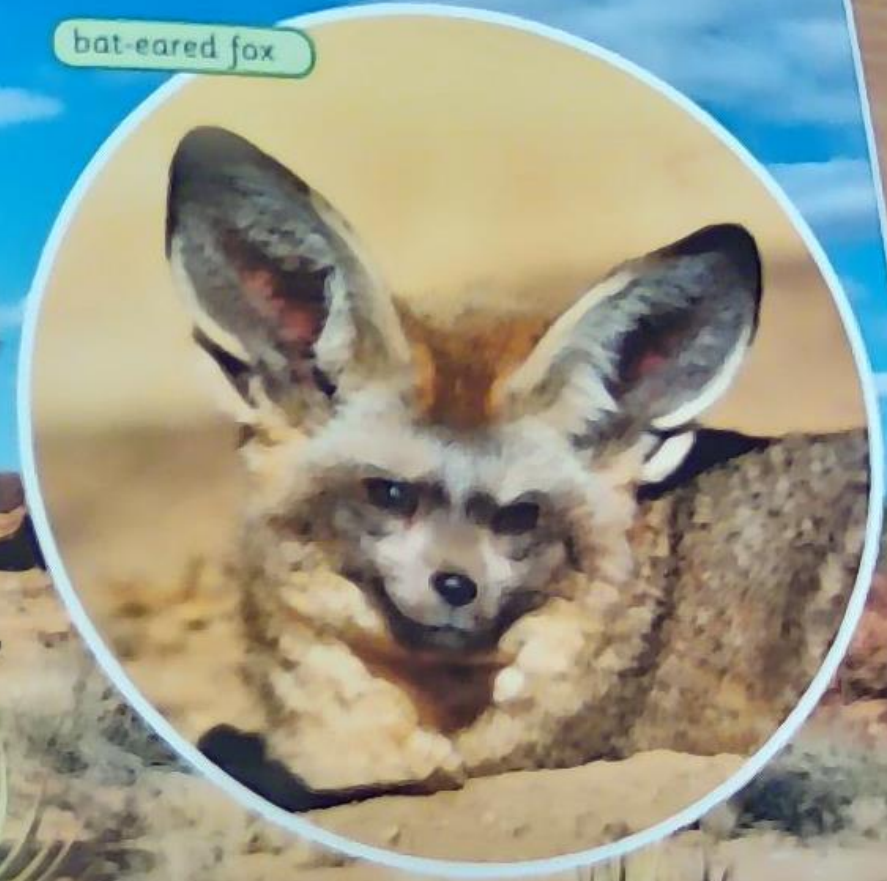


The people that follow and hunt the wildlife use skin and dung to construct houses.



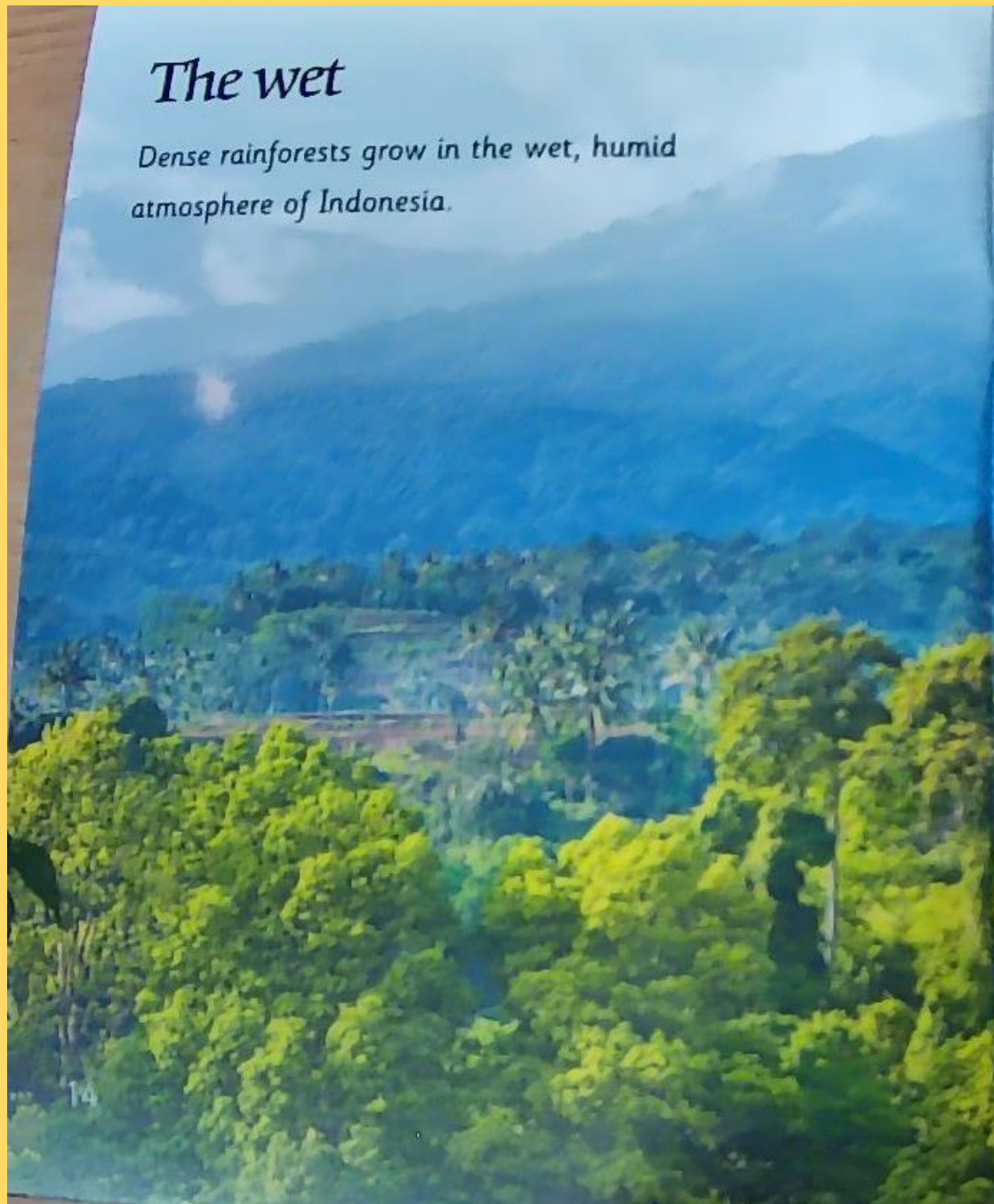
Plants hold moisture in their leaves, whilst creatures like the bat-eared fox have developed large ears to keep them cool.

bat-eared fox



The wet

Dense rainforests grow in the wet, humid atmosphere of Indonesia.



Tall trees stretch up to the sunlight, while pitcher plants trap and eat insects.



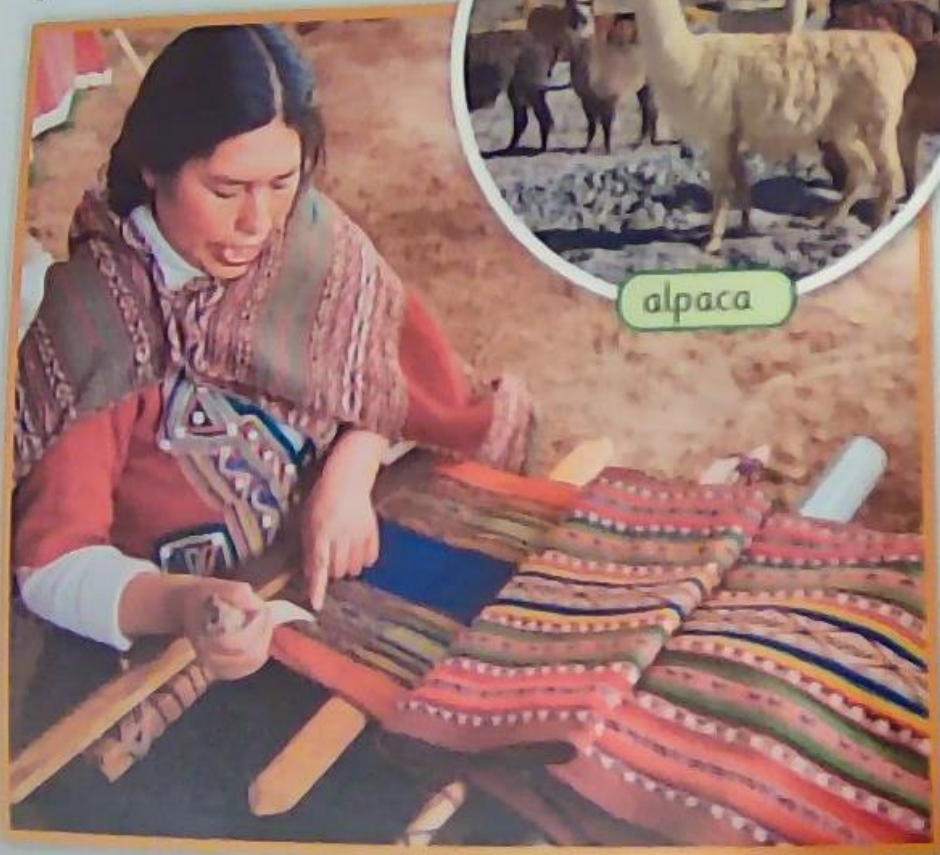
pitcher plant

Strange creatures such as the chameleon have evolved bright colours, while heavyweight orangutans and monkeys swing from vines.



The high and the low

In the high Andes mountain ranges, people weave clothes from alpaca wool.



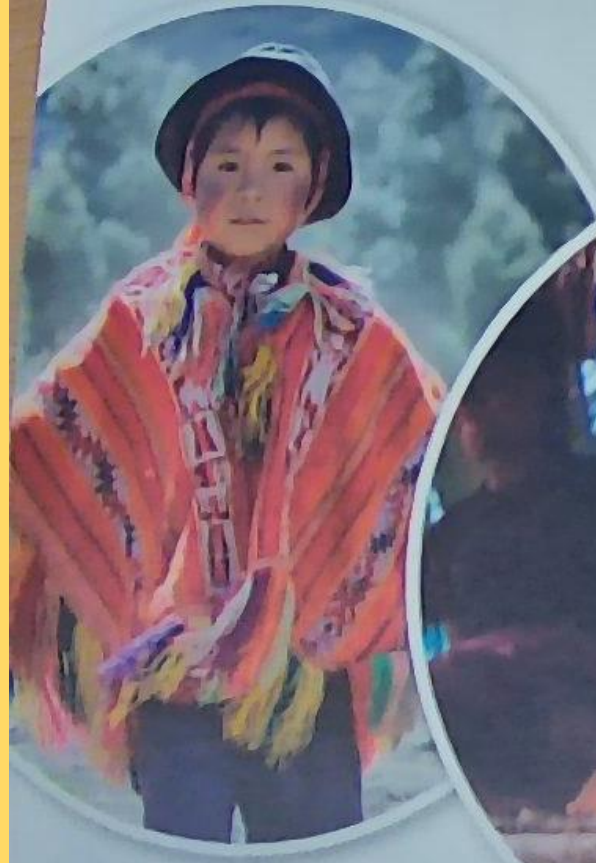
alpaca

In the low-lying atolls of Kiribati, shelters jut out into the sea to catch cooling breezes.

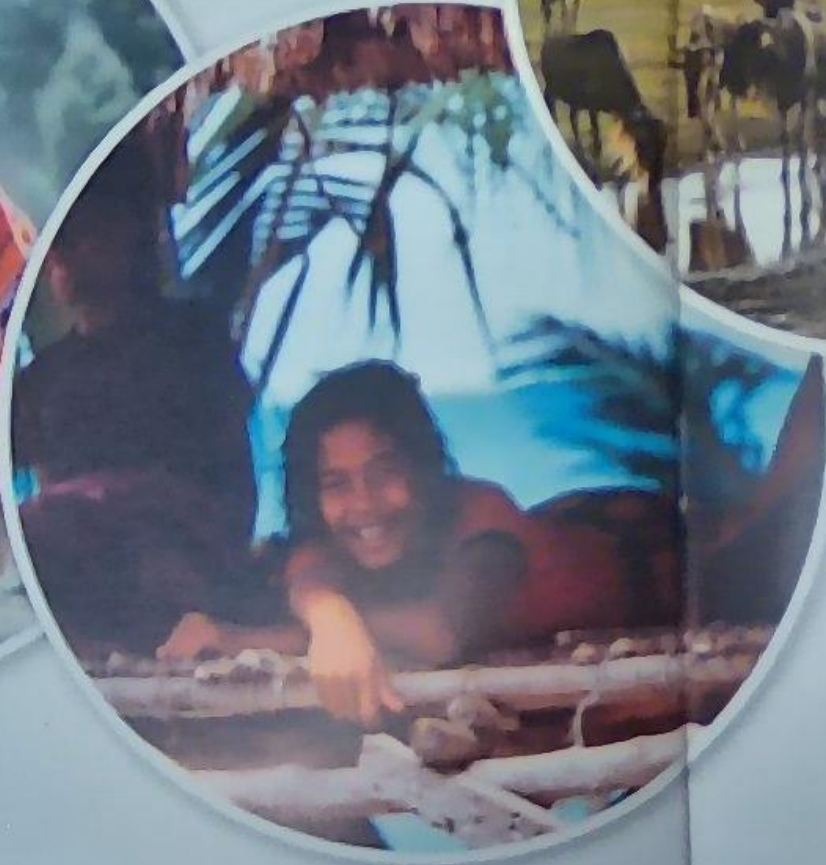


Shelters on stilts stay cooler.

The extreme weather makes life hard along the Equator, but people, plants and wildlife have found ways to adapt.



20



21

Extremes on the Equator

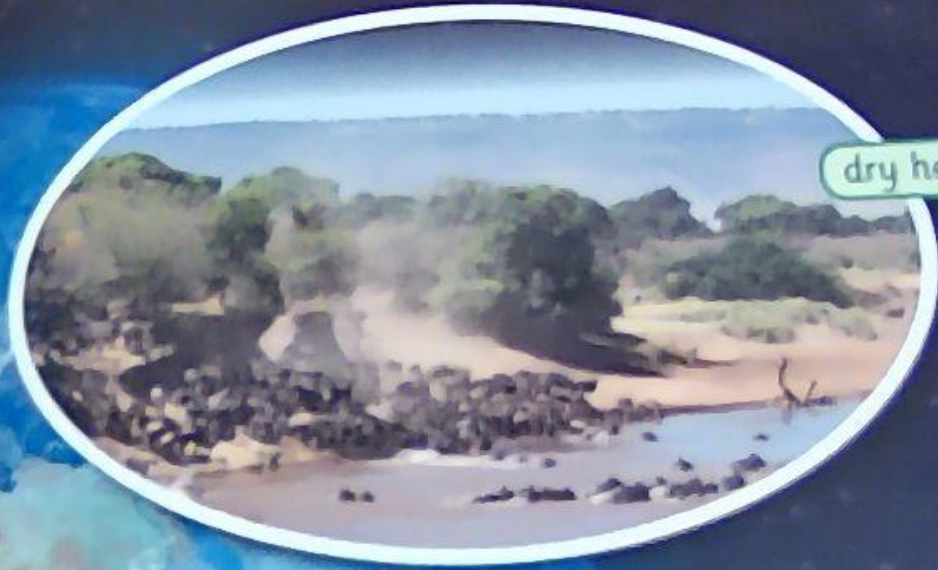
snow-capped mountains



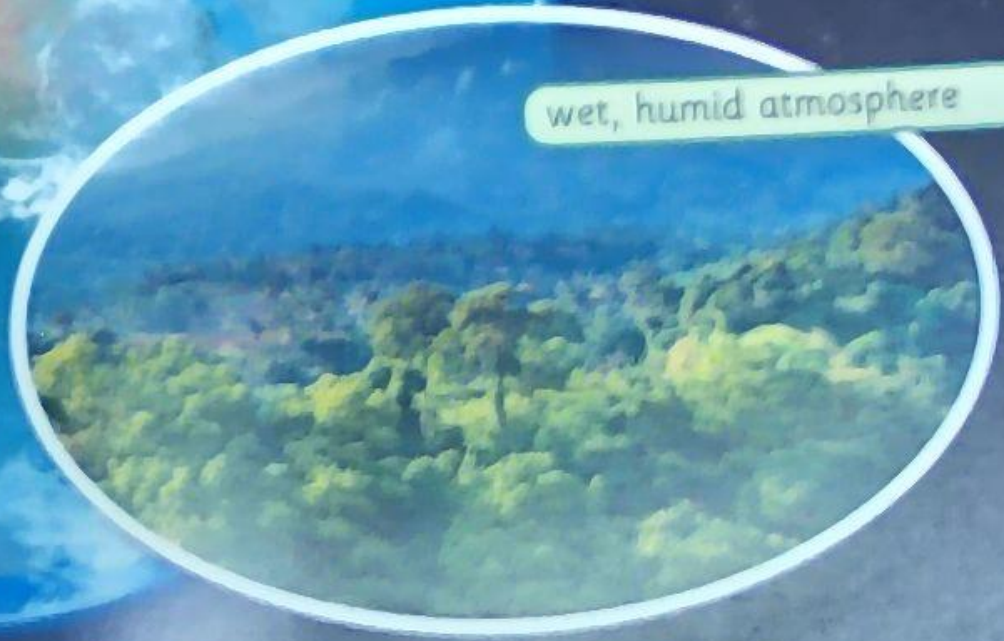
huge sand dunes

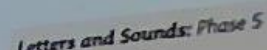
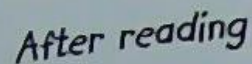


dry heat



wet, humid atmosphere





Word count: 303

Word count: 303
Focus phonemes: /ai/ eight a /igh/ y /ee/ y e e e y /ch/ tight /c/ ch t /w/ wh

Focus phonemes: /a:/ eight /ɜ:/ sea
/ʊ/ let /ɪ/ get /f/ ph /v/ ve /z/ se /s/ se
for of to the

Common exception words: of, to, the, into, their, people

Common exception words: of, to, the, this, that, for

National Curriculum learning objectives: Spoken language: articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions; Reading/Word reading: apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words, read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs that have been taught, read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs, read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge; Reading/Comprehension: understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently – by drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher

Developing fluency

- Your child may enjoy hearing you read the book. Model reading with lots of expression.
- You may wish to take turns to read a page.

Phonic practice

- Help your child to get quicker at reading multi-syllable words. Ask them to

- Read the sounds in each syllable "chunk" and blend.
- Then read each chunk to read the whole word.

territories

extremely extremely

imajinari	imaginary
-----------	-----------

geology/nu'phɪ ɡeɒlɪnfrɪ ɡeɒlɪnfrɪ

- Now read the words quickly without chunking them up

Extending vocabulary

- Ask your child to spot the synonyms below. Which is the odd one out?

- * wet parched dry (aust)

- strange huge unusual (huge)

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| swing | swing | capture | (swing) |
|-------|-------|---------|---------|

Comprehension

- ### Comprehension
- Can you remember some of the animals that live along the Equator? (e.g. orangutan, chameleon)
 - Why does the bat-eared fox have big ears? (to keep cool)
 - Look at pages 22-23 together. Talk about the differences between the places along the Equator and what it would be like to live in each one.
 - Discuss how extreme the weather is in the different countries on the Equator and ask your child to explain to you why this is, using the book to support their explanation.

Further reading

Further reading
Beetles Around the World (Orange/Band 6) is another non-fiction book that also covers phonemes from Phase 5 of Letters and Sounds.



for Letters and Sounds

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(1) James Earl Ray, alias Jack Ruby, 25 Memphis, Tennessee, 1924 - United States, 38 42 United States, 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 3