

# Pioneer Children

**Question Book:**

Year 3, pages 6-7

**Author / Source:**

Brenda Williams

**Genre:**

Non-fiction — reference text

**Cross-curricular links:**

- Geography (migration)
- History (the British Empire)

## Introduction

*Pioneer Children* looks at how and why families emigrated from Britain to other corners of the world in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Canada and Australia were two of the most popular destinations. Some children left with their families, but many also travelled by themselves with the help of charities, who believed children would have a better life abroad. Before pupils read the text, make sure they understand what life was like in Victorian England for different people, especially the poor, e.g. child labour and workhouses.

## Answers

1. E.g. Because they thought they could find a better life abroad.
2. E.g. Kind, because she lent poor families money so that they could afford to travel to Australia.
3. E.g. exciting; breathtaking; gripping; wondrous
4. Any two from: the hot sun; unusual plants; strange animals
5. Non-fiction. E.g. Because the text gives facts and information about real events.
6. Any appropriate answer. E.g. No, because there wasn't much room to play so I think it would have been boring. OR E.g. Yes, because it would have been an exciting adventure and I could have made friends with the other children on the ship.

