

## Guided reading - week 8

WALT: Discuss words and phrases that capture my imagination

Task:

Read the documentary extract and select words and phrases that help you to build a picture in your mind of what is happening. Explain your choices. Below is an example.

The Amazon is the mightiest river on earth. One thousand miles before it reaches the sea its main channel is already 10 miles wide. By the time it reaches the ocean it carries a fifth of all the river water in the world, spilling an incredible 45 galleons a second into the Atlantic. Every year, without fail, the Amazon bursts its banks and floods an area of forest the size of England. This huge change in water level over such a vast area affects everything that lives here in a dramatic way.

### Chosen vocabulary

- mightiest river
- bursts its banks
- vast area

### Explaining why

The descriptive words I have chosen demonstrates how the Amazon is a large and powerful river. The word 'mightiest' makes the river appear impressive in size and strength.

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### Task 1: Select vocabulary that captures your imagination.

After the river has flooded the forest...

Dawn breaks to a world transformed. Trees here have evolved to deal with this annual inundation, they can survive even standing in eight metres of water. The forest will stay flooded for up to five months. For animals of the forest floor, it can spell disaster unless they can get away. The long-nosed armadillo lives on dry land and usually travels only at night. Forced from her flooded burrow this female desperately swims for safety.

#### Chosen vocabulary:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### Explain your choices:

### Task 2: Select vocabulary that captures your imagination.

She's in grave danger, predators like the black caiman cruise the waterways and she could sink under the weight of her heavy shell. She can hold her breath for a few minutes and even walk on the river bottom if she has to. To make it across this wide channel she swallows air inflates her chest creating a temporary life jacket, but swimming this far is exhausting and hungry predators are on patrol. Floods have driven the armadillo out of her burrow and into the swollen river to swim for her life. This time she's lucky.

#### Chosen vocabulary:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### Explain your choices: