


Read and Succeed

Book 3

Ages 11 - 14 years

- 
- Dinosaurs Down Under
 - Believe It Or Not
 - Deadly Quest
 - Ned Kelly: Hero Or Villain?
 - Surfing
 - The Youngest ANZAC
 - Why Wear A Uniform?
 - The Mystery Of Kaz II
 - Creative Genius

By Margaret Warner

Teachers' Notes

Read and Succeed Book 3 is written for lower secondary students who are struggling to keep up with their peers. Researchers and teachers know that a student's fluency in reading increases as the student reads more often, and experiences success and enjoyment as their skills develop.

It is important to remember that secondary students experiencing difficulty with reading must be retaught basic literacy skills and concepts that they may have had difficulty processing in earlier years for whatever reason. When they acquire these skills, they will begin to gain confidence putting them into practice.

Students at lower secondary level who are not reading at their expected level of competency are more likely to engage with texts about fascinating subjects. In *Read and Succeed Book 3*, students will read a range of texts that are likely to be of interest to them and complete language activities that focus on the student succeeding with reading. The book uses short paragraphs to develop key ideas.

Ideas on how to use the book:

- *Model effective reading strategies by reading to the student or group. Ask questions before, during and after reading.*
- *Discuss the topic of each unit and encourage students to contribute their prior knowledge of the topic. Prior knowledge helps with understanding.*
- *Actively teach comprehension skills. Discuss how to work out the meanings of unfamiliar words, make predictions, summarise main ideas, identify literal information and make inferences.*
- *Encourage students to work in cooperative groups so that they experience success.*
- *Develop students' confidence in reading so that when they read they will succeed. When they succeed they will read more and develop their skills and enjoyment of reading.*

1. Theropod means beast-footed. Theropods are carnivorous dinosaurs that walked or ran on two legs. Complete the description below of a theropod, then draw it.

- Walked on _____ legs.
- Standing _____ metres tall.
- Able to move _____.
- _____ hind legs.
- _____ hands.
- _____ teeth.
- _____ diet.
- _____ predator.

2. Explain briefly how the tracks were formed and preserved for millions of years until the area was excavated. Use these key words:

soft mud footprints covered sand and mud sediment
 rock preserved excavated footprints revealed

3. The explanation *Dinosaurs Down Under* contains a number of dates and statistics. Complete each sentence below.

- a. The mid Cretaceous period was _____
- b. 95 million years ago _____
- c. There were 3,300 _____
- d. 150 _____
- e. In the 1960s _____
- f. In the 1970s _____
- g. Now _____
- h. In the future _____

- Read the following short summary based on *Believe It Or Not*. As you read, fill in the spaces with your own words.

◦ DO YOU BELIEVE IT? ◦

It was just after (1) _____ when Jack heard a scuffling sound close to his tent. He crawled out of his tent expecting to see a (2) _____. Instead, he saw a large, hairy (3) _____ moving towards the tents. Jack sat as still as a (4) _____ and watched the creature go into his tent. Almost straight away it came out with Jack's iPod and (5) _____ in its hand. As it turned and loped away, Jack followed it into the (6) _____. After a while it stopped then entered a (7) _____.

Shortly after, Jack heard a loud humming (8) _____. He watched as two (9) _____ descended from a spacecraft. They called to the creature then they all took off into the night sky. When Jack returned to the (10) _____ not everyone believed his story.



- Write your own tall story. It should have a title, an introduction, a main part which includes a series of events that become more exaggerated as they progress, and it should end with a conclusion. Continue your writing on the back of this sheet.

- Before reading *Ned Kelly: Hero Or Villain?* answer the question below.

What do you know about Ned Kelly? _____

- If you come across an unfamiliar word when you are reading, try to work out its meaning from the rest of the sentence.

◦ NED KELLY: HERO OR VILLAIN? ◦

Is Ned Kelly a hero or a villain? Many people have a firm opinion about Ned Kelly and his actions, even though he died over a century ago. Those who are of the view that Ned is a villain, point out that he was heading for a life of crime from an early age because he was often in the company of Harry Power, who already had a reputation with the police.

Another incident that supports the idea that Ned was a villain is the event that took place in April 1878. On this date, Constable Fitzpatrick was injured by Ned. Fitzpatrick alleged that when he arrived at Ned's mother's house to question Dan Kelly, Ned and members of the family attacked him. In October 1878, Ned was in trouble again. He, his brother Dan and friends Joe Byrne and Steve Hart came across police camped at Stringybark Creek and Ned deliberately shot three policemen. This event clearly shows Ned Kelly as a villain.

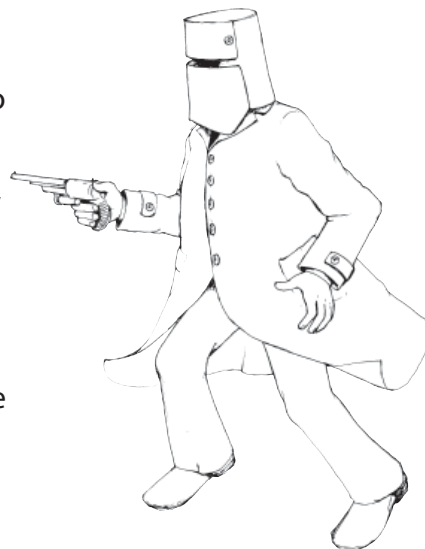
Ned and his gang are also known for robbing the banks at Euroa and Jerilderie where they took hostages before escaping with over four thousand pounds. In his final stand off with police at Glenrowan, Ned and his gang again took hostages. In this siege, two died and also a number of people were wounded. This event constructs Ned as more of a villain than a hero.

Not everyone agrees however, that Ned Kelly was a criminal, in fact he has many sympathisers. Such sympathisers draw on other parts of Ned's life to support their view of him as heroic. At age 10 Ned risked his life to rescue 7 year old Richard Shelton from the floodwaters of a creek on their way to school. At age 11 he became the family breadwinner after his father's death left the family in poverty. As the eldest, Ned tried his best to help his mother. In contrast to what Fitzpatrick alleged, Ned claimed that he and his brother were not in the house when Fitzpatrick said he was attacked. Ned's mother was subsequently arrested and sentenced to three years hard labour even though she had several young children including a baby.

The fact that Ned killed three policemen at Stringybark Creek cannot be denied, although he did not kill the one who surrendered. Ned claimed that the police were out to kill him so the murders could be viewed as an act of self-defence.

Although Ned took hostages when the gang robbed the banks, he never harmed anyone. Even in the final siege at Glenrowan most of the hostages were freed before the fighting started. Ned could have escaped but he returned to help his brother and friends who were all killed.

Attempting to explain his actions, in December 1878 Ned wrote a long letter of nearly 8,000 words outlining how poverty and harassment of his family by the police had led him to a life of crime. Even though more than 30,000 people signed a petition for clemency, he was hanged on 11.11.1880 aged 25.



- **Opinions about Ned Kelly are often based on hearsay rather than on facts. Read *Ned Kelly: Hero Or Villain?* again and from the information work out if the statements below are true or false.**

1. Circle TRUE or FALSE.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| a. Ned Kelly's family was poor. | TRUE | FALSE |
| b. 300 people signed a petition to save Ned Kelly's life. | TRUE | FALSE |
| c. Ned Kelly's father died when he was young. | TRUE | FALSE |
| d. Ned Kelly saved a boy from drowning. | TRUE | FALSE |
| e. Six police were shot at Stringybark Creek. | TRUE | FALSE |
| f. Mrs Kelly was sentenced to three years hard labour. | TRUE | FALSE |
| g. Ned's brother, Dan died at Glenrowan. | TRUE | FALSE |
| h. Ned Kelly died in a fight. | TRUE | FALSE |
| i. Ned Kelly became the family breadwinner at age 11. | TRUE | FALSE |
| j. Ned Kelly was sentenced to life in prison. | TRUE | FALSE |

2. Draw lines to connect each word to its meaning.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. hero | a. a person held prisoner against their will |
| 2. villain | b. a request to a person in power |
| 3. breadwinner | c. a person who has done something brave |
| 4. hostage | d. a person who has done wrong |
| 5. petition | e. a person who earns the money to care for a family |



- **Write words or phrases (groups of words) that describe Ned Kelly.**

○ **Surfing is a procedural text, which gives direct, clear instructions in sequence about how to learn to surf.**

1. List the verbs used in the instructions.

2. List the verbs used in the safety tips.

3. List the words that indicate the sequence of instructions, e.g. *first*.

4. List some *time* adverbs, e.g. *now*.

5. Check the text and find language that applies only to surfing, e.g. *foam board*.

6. Compound words are made when two words are joined together, e.g. *surf* and *board* make the word *surfboard* when joined. Join the words on the left with words on the right to make compound words.

- | | |
|----------|--------|
| a. surf | glass |
| b. fibre | noon |
| c. under | berg |
| d. side | water |
| e. on | sand |
| f. sun | board |
| g. quick | ways |
| h. after | shine |
| i. rain | coming |
| j. ice | bow |



7. What does it mean to be a *regular foot*?

8. What does it mean to be a *goofy foot*?

- A prefix is a group of letters at the beginning of a word that change a word's meaning, e.g. *a biography is a person's life story written by another person. An autobiography is a person's life story written by him/herself.*

The prefix *auto* means *by oneself, by itself, without needing help.*

1. Find each prefixed word below in the dictionary and write its meaning.

autobiography: _____

autocrat: _____

autograph: _____

autoimmune: _____

automatic: _____

automobile: _____

autopilot: _____

autorewind: _____

2. The prefix *under* means *below, under and not enough*, e.g. *underage*. Write the meaning of each prefixed word below.

underarm: _____

undercoat: _____

undercook: _____

undercut: _____

undergo: _____

underhand: _____

underpay: _____

underwear: _____

3. *Battalion, platoon, enlist, recruit, torpedo* and *evacuate* are all words that relate to the army. Write their meanings on the back of this sheet.