

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Family Times

## Summary

### **Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World**

Jennifer Owings Dewey is given a wonderful opportunity—the chance to see Antarctica for herself. During her four-month trip, Jennifer witnesses the life cycle of penguins, watches orca whales swim by her boat, experiences life without night, and narrowly escapes a dangerous fall into a glacier crevasse.

### **Activity**

**Packing Light** Pretend you are going to Antarctica for several months. Besides the necessities you will need in order to survive, you may bring only two personal items. Discuss with your family what those two items would be, and why you would bring them.



## Comprehension Skill

### **Main Idea and Details**

The **main idea** makes a point about a topic and has at least one supporting detail. **Details** are smaller pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

### **Activity**

**Finding Support** Along with a family member, read a nonfiction article about Antarctica from a reference book or the Internet. What do each of you believe is the main idea of the article? Try to find details in the article that support your main idea.

## Lesson Vocabulary

### Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World*. Practice using these words.

### Vocabulary Words

**anticipation** act of anticipating; looking forward to; expectation

**continent** one of the seven great masses of land on Earth; the continents are North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica.

**convergence** act or process of meeting at a point

**depart** to go away; leave

**forbidding** causing fear or dislike; looking dangerous or unpleasant

**heaves** rises and falls

**icebergs** large masses of ice, detached from a glacier and floating in the sea

## Conventions

### Time-Order Words

Some adverbs that show the sequence and conclusion of the plot are **time-order words**. Remember these words to help you figure out the order of the plot points and the ending: *first, now, next, then, finally, and last*.

### Activity

**In Order** Play this game with your family. Make three cards each. The cards should say *first, now, next, then, finally, and last*. Select a story or fable that everyone would know. Have a person pick a card and tell a plot point using the time-order word on the card. Write the sentence down. When everyone has had at least one turn, put the sentences in order using the time-order words.

## Practice Tested Spelling Words

anticipation

continent

convergence

depart

forbidding

heaves

icebergs

anticipation

continent

convergence

depart

forbidding

heaves

icebergs

anticipation

continent

convergence

depart

forbidding

heaves