

Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

Death and danger are a part of everyday life for the creatures at the Bolsa Chica Conservancy in southern California.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Read aloud the title and the blurb on the back of the book, and discuss the cover illustration. Tell the student that a conservancy is a place or an organization established to protect natural resources or wildlife. Ask the student why the book might be called *Deadly Encounters*. What danger might there be at the conservancy? Encourage the students as they read to look at how the author has used descriptive language to create visual images.

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. What are the dangers at the Bolsa Chica Conservancy?
2. How are the great blue heron and the snowy egret similar? How are they different?
3. Which bird do you think is the most dangerous? Why?
4. Give some examples of descriptive language in *Deadly Encounters*. What images did the language create in your mind?
5. How do you think the author feels about the conservancy? Why do you think that?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. Fish are in danger from birds; birds and their chicks are in danger from people and from other birds, such as hawks.
2. They are both tall birds with thin legs and dagger-like beaks that find food at the water's edge. The heron is blue, but the egret is white with yellow feet.
3. Answers will vary but may be the hawk because it preys on the chicks of other birds.
4. Answers will vary but may include: "this darting flight path"; "a group of fighter planes"; "like dragging a pair of scissors."
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

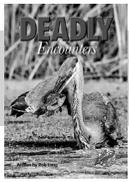
Exploring synonyms

Introduce the concept and practice

Exploring an author's use of synonyms helps the student identify ways that they can make their own writing more varied and interesting.

Write "peaceful" on the board. Ask the student to reread page 11 and to find words that have the same meaning as peaceful (serene, calm). List them under "peaceful." Explain to the student that these words are synonyms and that an author uses synonyms to make their writing varied and interesting. Help the student to use a thesaurus to find other synonyms for "peaceful" and add them to the list. Repeat this exercise with other words from the text such as "eats," "catch," "killing," and "strange." Encourage the student to use synonyms in their own writing.





Name: Date:

Introduction: Death and danger are a part of everyday life for the creatures at the Bolsa Chica Conservancy in southern California.

Errors M S

Danger All Around The Bolsa Chica Conservancy in Huntington Beach, California, looks peaceful at first glance. Calm, blue waters border _____ islands covered with nesting _____. Sandy trails enable people _____ hike through the conservancy _____ watch nature unfold before _____ eyes. You might think _____ conservancy that was created _____ protect life in the _____ would be a safe _____ for the creatures that _____ there. However, with surprise _____ and deadly encounters happening _____ day, the Bolsa Chica Conservancy _____ as peaceful as _____ first appears. **Attacks from the Air** _____ you first enter _____ conservancy, you're greeted by _____, sleek birds that _____, clack, and squeak. These _____ California least terns, and _____ one of the reasons _____ Bolsa Chica Conservancy was _____. During the 1800s, California _____ Terns were slaughtered for _____ long black and white _____. Hundreds of thousands of these birds died to decorate women's hats.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 11 correct		Independent
10 or 11 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 10 correct		Frustration

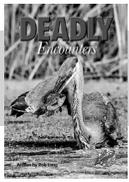
Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ S = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard Seen Unseen

Comments:





The Bolsa Chica Conservancy in Huntington Beach looks peaceful at first glance. However, with surprise attacks and deadly encounters happening every day, it isn't as peaceful as it appears. When you first enter the conservancy, you're greeted by the loud, sleek California Least Terns.

These California Least Terns are one of the reasons the Bolsa Chica Conservancy was created. During the 1800s, hundreds of thousands of these birds were slaughtered so that their long black-and-white feathers could decorate women's hats. The Least Terns use the elements of speed and surprise to catch their prey.

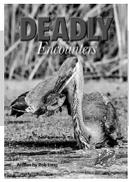
Pelicans are another species of bird found in the conservancy that use speed and surprise to catch their prey. The pelican uses its large wings to glide across the ocean. When it spots some fish, it dives headfirst into the water, opens its enormous bill, and scoops up the fish.

The black skimmer fishes by dragging the long lower part of its bill through the water and snapping the upper bill down on any fish it touches. The great blue heron stands silently at the water's edge. It seems to be relaxing but it's actually busy scanning for food.

When the heron spots a fish, frog, crayfish, or lizard, it strikes like lightning. It swallows small creatures whole and takes larger fish to the shore where it beats them against the ground to kill them. The snowy egret, the most elegant bird in the Bolsa Chica Conservancy, stalks the muddy water's edge.

It kicks around in the muck until a fish, crab, or tasty insect appears. Then, with a deadly downward strike, the egret snatches its meal and gobbles it down. The wetlands of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy are not as calm and peaceful as they first appear. For the creatures that live there, death and danger are all around.





Name: **Date:**

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

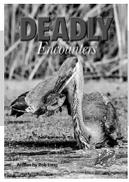
e	d	i	r	e	c	t	i	o	n	c	a	u	g	h	t
v	e	n	a	f	t	e	r	n	o	o	n	o	p	d	r
e	w	c	a	m	o	u	f	l	a	g	e	n	e	i	e
r	h	s	u	e	a	t	t	a	c	k	o	p	a	f	a
y	e	t	c	p	n	a	c	r	o	s	s	r	c	f	l
w	n	h	w	i	s	o	w	a	t	e	r	e	e	e	i
h	e	r	f	i	s	u	r	f	i	s	h	d	f	r	z
e	v	o	l	o	t	s	r	m	b	y	v	a	u	e	e
r	e	u	i	b	c	h	o	f	o	y	n	t	l	n	s
e	r	g	g	a	i	e	o	r	a	u	c	o	m	t	t
t	h	h	h	n	i	r	a	u	s	c	s	r	i	a	r
h	a	i	t	y	s	n	d	n	t	a	e	c	g	l	a
e	s	t	i	n	s	p	e	c	t	i	o	n	h	l	i
i	n	v	i	s	i	b	l	e	t	h	a	t	t	o	g
a	l	o	n	g	d	e	c	o	r	a	t	e	r	w	h
a	n	d	g	l	a	n	c	e	a	l	w	a	y	s	t

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| across | by | fish | might | surface |
| afternoon | camouflage | flight | ocean | that |
| allow | caught | glance | on | the |
| along | decorate | has | peaceful | through |
| always | different | in | predator | up |
| and | direction | inspection | realize | water |
| any | enormous | invisible | scissors | whenever |
| attack | everywhere | it | straight | without |
| bird | | | | |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what was created to protect life in the wetlands.....





- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
 You enter the Bolsa Chica Conservancy. It looks peaceful at first glance.

1 You're greeted by California Least Terns. Spin again. Go forward that number.

2

3

19

20 A great blue heron strikes like lightning at a lizard. Spin again. If you spin an odd number, go on to 24.

21

22

4

18

END
 The wetlands of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy are not as calm and peaceful as they first appeared.

23 A black-necked stilt swoops at you. Name 2 numbers. If you spin one of them, go back to 19.

5 You watch a tern drop out of the sky and snatch a fish from the water. Miss a turn.

17 A black skimmer uses its bill like a pair of scissors. Go forward 4 spaces.

30

24

6

16

29

25 A red-tailed hawk circles on the horizon. Go back to 21.

7

15

28

27 The hawk is bombarded by other screeching birds. Spin again. Go on to 30.

26

8

14

13 The pelican fills its pouch and returns to the surface to gulp down the fish. Go on to 16.

12

11

10

9 A pelican flying overhead spots some fish and dives headfirst into the water. Go back 3 spaces.



