



## Orientation

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

### Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

A hovercraft is a vehicle that literally hovers above the ground on a cushion of air. Learn more about these amazing vehicles and how to make a model hovercraft yourself.

### 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.

Ask the student if they know what a hovercraft is. Have they ever seen one? Explain that “hover” means to hang in the air. Ask the student if they know how a hovercraft works. If not, help them to find this information in the text and discuss it until you feel confident that the student understands it.

Ensure that the student understands “flexible.” Discuss any difficult vocabulary, creating a word bank if necessary.

Point out the structure of the text. Explain that the first half is a report and the second is a set of instructions for making a hovercraft.

## 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 is a hovercraft?
2. Why are hovercraft so useful?
3. What do you need to make the model hovercraft in the book?
4. Why is it useful that a hovercraft can “fly” onto a trailer?
5. What kind of emergencies could a hovercraft be used in?

## Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. It's a vehicle that hovers above the ground or water on a cushion of air that has been forced down by a large fan.
2. Accept either of the following: they can move around a lot of places; they're gentle on the surface they're traveling over.
3. Accept any of the following: an old CD; an empty plastic canister; a balloon; a hot glue gun; a clothes pin.
4. Answers will vary.
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

Understanding and following simple written instructions for classroom-related activities

### Introduce the concept and practice

Following written instructions in a procedural text provides evidence of the student's comprehension.

When the student is familiar with the book, ask them to reread the instructions for making a model hovercraft and to write a list of the materials required. Provide them with the things that they need, then make the hovercraft together. Allow the student to do most of the constructing and checking back with the instructions to ensure that they are following them correctly. As you work together, emphasize the fact that following instructions can help us to do new things.





Name: ..... Date: .....

**Introduction:** A hovercraft is a vehicle that literally hovers above the ground on a cushion of air. Learn more about these amazing vehicles and how to make a model hovercraft yourself.

Errors  
M S

**Imagine This** You're standing by a lake, watching what you think is a boat traveling across the water. The "boat" leaves the \_\_\_\_\_ and drives across the \_\_\_\_\_ on the shore. It \_\_\_\_\_ down near a parked \_\_\_\_\_ , glides up a ramp, \_\_\_\_\_ comes to rest on \_\_\_\_\_ trailer. "What is it?" \_\_\_\_\_ ask the driver, pointing \_\_\_\_\_ the strange vehicle that \_\_\_\_\_ travel on both water \_\_\_\_\_ land and then glide \_\_\_\_\_ a trailer. "It's a \_\_\_\_\_ ," he replies. You decide \_\_\_\_\_ find

out more ... **How a Hovercraft Works** The \_\_\_\_\_ is a vehicle that \_\_\_\_\_ above the land or \_\_\_\_\_ on a cushion of \_\_\_\_\_ that has been forced \_\_\_\_\_ using a large fan. \_\_\_\_\_ flexible rubber skirt around \_\_\_\_\_ base of the hovercraft \_\_\_\_\_ the air, lifting the \_\_\_\_\_ of the craft. This \_\_\_\_\_ it to travel over \_\_\_\_\_ land, water, ice, and \_\_\_\_\_ .

**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: .....





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You're standing by a lake, watching a boat traveling across the water. The "boat" then leaves the water and drives across the soil on the shore. Then it glides up a ramp and onto a trailer. The hovercraft is a vehicle that hovers above the land or water on a cushion of air.

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This air has been forced down by a large fan. A flexible rubber skirt around the base of the hovercraft traps the air, lifting the bottom of the craft. This allows it to travel over flat land, water, ice, and snow. Small hovercraft are used for fishing and exploring.

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They are also used for farming, pest control, law enforcement, and to clean up oil spills. Larger hovercraft are used for ferrying passengers. Because a hovercraft spreads its weight and the weight of the driver over a wide area, it's very gentle on the surface it's traveling over. You can make a model of a hovercraft.

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Use a glue gun to stick the open end of a plastic canister to the center of a CD. Blow up a balloon to about half its full size. Put a clothes pin on the neck of the balloon. Stretch the neck of the balloon over the plastic canister. Put the hovercraft on a smooth, hard surface.

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Remove the clothes pin and give the hovercraft a flick. The air from the balloon is forced through the holes in the plastic canister and the CD. It then escapes out from beneath the CD. The CD is supported by a thin cushion of air, just like a real hovercraft.

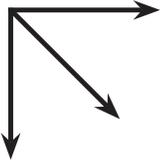
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Name: ..... Date: .....

Words can be found in these directions:



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

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

**Words to find:**

- |        |         |         |        |          |
|--------|---------|---------|--------|----------|
| above  | air     | and     | around | balloon  |
| boat   | cushion | deep    | driver | egg      |
| escape | floor   | frozen  | give   | half     |
| holes  | hovers  | hundred | ice    | land     |
| more   | on      | open    | over   | person   |
| real   | shell   | shore   | snow   | standing |
| the    | to      | travel  | up     | water    |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what modern hovercraft use to drive the fan that forces the air down. ....





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

**START**  
You're standing by a lake, and you see a "boat" drive up out of the water and onto land.

1

2

3

**19** An early version of the hovercraft was made 200 years ago. Go back three spaces.

**20**

**21**

**22** Hovercraft are used for a lot of different activities. Spin again. Go forward that number.

**4** You ask the driver what the strange vehicle is. Miss a turn.

**18**

**END**  
A hovercraft is very gentle on the surface it travels over. It can be driven over an egg without cracking its shell.

**23**

**5**

**17** A hovercraft can travel over land, water, ice, and snow. Go on to 21.

**30**

**24** Large hovercraft are used for ferrying passengers. Go back to 21.

**6**

**16**

**29** Hovercraft are helpful in swampy areas that aren't deep enough for boats. Spin again. Go back that number.

**25**

**7**

**15**

**28**

**27**

**26** Hovercraft are sometimes used for emergency rescues. Spin again. If you spin a 1 or 6, go on to 28.

**8** The driver tells you the vehicle is a hovercraft. Name two numbers. If you spin one of them, go back to 5.

**14**

**13**

**12** A hovercraft hovers above the ground on a cushion of air. Go forward four spaces.

**11**

**10**

**9**





**Name:** ..... **Date:** .....

Draw a diagram of a hovercraft. Label each part of the hovercraft and explain what these parts are for.

Write on the back of this page if you need more space.



Use the pictures and the story to help complete your diagram. Write one sentence for each part, explaining what it is for.

