

# MORE HIGH-INTEREST NONFICTION

REM 1032

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



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# INTRODUCTION

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***More High-Interest Nonfiction*** is a content-rich resource featuring forty-nine engaging nonfiction stories covering topics that range from A Famous Mummy, to The Arctic Mouse, to The Vikings, to Jonas E. Salk, to The Age of Computers Begins. The book is designed for students at or above the fourth grade reading level.

The stories encompass five major themes:

- Strange and Unusual Powers and Other Mysteries
- Creatures of the Earth and Sea
- Inventors and Inventions
- Heroes and Heroines
- American Heritage and History

This versatile book is ideally suited for use in the *differentiated classroom*. Each four-page unit in the collection covers a wide variety of skills, while providing activities suitable for differing ability levels.

The following activities are included with each story:

- Preview Words
- A Question in Test Format
- At least two Sentence Writing Questions
- Several Literal Comprehension Questions
- Several Critical Thinking Questions based on Bloom's Taxonomy
- A Research/Writing Activity
- A Review Page in Cloze Format

You may wish to assign different exercises to students according to their levels of ability. The easiest exercise is the Review Page, followed by the literal comprehension questions, the test question, and sentence writing activities. The critical thinking questions are more difficult, with the research/writing activity being the most challenging of all.

You will find the accompanying Skills Chart to be a valuable teaching tool. It shows precisely which skills are targeted in every story. The chart will enable you to choose a selection according to the skills it covers, or to simply be informed about the skills you will be teaching with each story.

With today's emphasis on standards, the demand for materials in the *nonfiction genre* has increased. This multi-purpose book meets the need for such materials. It is also broad enough in scope to be used not only as a supplement in reading class, but in language arts, history, and science classes as well. We are confident that *More High-Interest Nonfiction* will prove to be a valuable addition to your classroom.

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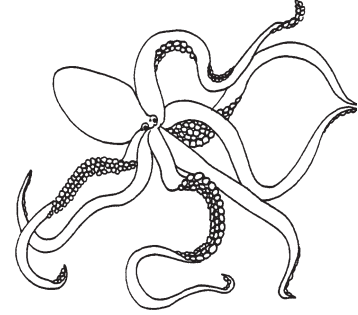
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## The Scary Seas

### PREVIEW WORDS

**pretend**  
**shallow**  
**overboard**

**object**  
**tentacle**  
**squid**



Pretend you are a sailor living 200 years ago. You are crossing the ocean on a wooden ship. You will see no land for weeks.

What's the scariest thing that could happen? A storm? Getting lost?

Years ago, many sailors were scared of seeing a kraken. A kraken was a huge, round sea monster. Its eyes were almost two feet wide. It had lots of arms. It looked like a tree with all its roots torn up.

Krakens could grab ships and make them sink. They could squeeze a man until he choked.

For years, sailors tried to capture krakens. They were able only to wound them. They would get parts of arms and tails. These body pieces didn't make the long trip home. They rotted, and they were thrown overboard.

Then in 1878, some fishermen saw a large object. It was stuck in shallow water. They used rope to tie it to a tree. When the tide left, the creature died.

The sea monster measured 57 feet across from tail to tentacle. It was later found to be a giant squid. The kraken turned out to be real after all!

Today, scientists think squids might grow to be 200 feet long. That is almost the length of a football field.

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**Fill in the circle next to the best answer.**

1. The creature captured by fishermen in 1878 turned out to be what?
  - Ⓐ a sea monster
  - Ⓑ a kraken
  - Ⓒ a giant squid

Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Write a question about the story for another student to answer. \_\_\_\_\_

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*Finding Facts/Reading for Details*

3. How large were the eyes of the kraken? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. The arms of a giant squid are called what? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Sailors crossing the ocean 200 years ago had what kind of ship?

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*Cause and Effect*

6. What caused the captured sea creature to die? \_\_\_\_\_

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*Comparison/Contrast*

7. How is the kraken compared to a tree? \_\_\_\_\_

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*Evaluating Information*

8. Why would giant squids not be as much of a threat to today's ships as they were to ships hundreds of years ago? \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

9. Write a sentence using one of the Preview Words.

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**Research Activity:**

Look up *tides* in an encyclopedia or other source. Write several sentences explaining what causes ocean tides, how often they occur, and any other information you find. \_\_\_\_\_

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**WORDS****kraken****shallow****sink****giant****scared****capture****tide****tentacle****squids****monster****eyes****squeeze**

Use words in the box to complete each sentence.

1. Years ago, many sailors were \_\_\_\_\_ of seeing a kraken.
2. A kraken was a huge sea \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Krakens could grab ships and make them \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a kraken were almost two feet wide.
5. Sailors tried to \_\_\_\_\_ krakens.
6. The creature could \_\_\_\_\_ a man until he choked.
7. Some fishermen saw a large object stuck in \_\_\_\_\_ water.
8. When the \_\_\_\_\_ left, the creature died.
9. From tail to \_\_\_\_\_, the sea monster measured 57 feet across.
10. It was later found to be a \_\_\_\_\_ squid.
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ turned out to be real after all!
12. Scientists think \_\_\_\_\_ might grow to be 200 feet long.