Penguin goes missing

Lesson code: 1ZAS-1739-G6NX

INTERMEDIATE

1 Warm-up

Why do you think someone might steal an animal from a zoo?

2 Key words

Match the terms on the left to the definitions on the right.

1.	release	a.	a group of animals that are similar and can produce young animals
2.	protest	b.	an animal's sexual partner
3.	survive	c.	an area of land that is next to a sea or an ocean
4.	a coast	d.	a person who goes into a buildings without permission to steal things
5.	a mate	e.	a place where birds lay their eggs and look after their chicks
6.	a nest	f.	to continue to live in a difficult situation
7.	a species	g.	to give freedom to something or someone
8.	a burglar	h.	to show that you don't agree with something, often in public

3 Find the Information

You are going to read an article about a penguin that was stolen from a marine park in South Africa last week. Scan the text on the next page to find the answers.

1. Why did some students steal the penguin?
   a. because they wanted an interesting pet
   b. because they wanted to show that keeping animals in zoos is cruel
   c. because they were playing a joke

2. How long do the park staff think that the penguin can survive outside the park?
   a. 2 days   b. 1 week   c. 3 weeks

3. How did staff discover that the penguin had disappeared?
   a. they couldn't find him in his nest
   b. they saw the students stealing him on CCTV
   c. they couldn't find him when they wanted to examine him

PHOTOCOPIABLE

4. When Buddy disappeared, what was the biggest problem?

    a.   his partner had no one to help her take care of the chicks

    b.   he was worth a lot of money for the park

    c.   people were sad because he was the most popular penguin at the park

5. How much did some British tourists have to pay because they stole a penguin in 2012?

    a. $100 AUD   b. $1,000 AUD   c. $10,000 AUD

Desperate Search for Stolen Penguin

28th of September 2016

1 A search is taking place for a penguin that was stolen and then released by students into the wild in South Africa.

2 Buddy, an African penguin, was released by students protesting about animals in zoos. The students had no plans to hurt the bird, but the penguin is in great danger as it won't be able to survive in the wild.

3 Bayworld in South Africa, the marine park where Buddy lives, thinks that he can only survive for three weeks. Park staff are searching the coast, hoping that they will find Buddy.

4 Dylan Bailey, manager of the park, said that it would be difficult for Buddy to survive in the wild because he was born in the park. He also said that Buddy was a very healthy penguin, in fact he was quite fat, and this would help him to live for a few weeks.

5 Staff only discovered that the penguin was missing when they looked for him to examine him.

6 CCTV showed two students climbing into the penguin pool, stealing Buddy and putting him into the boot of a car. They then drove a short distance to the sea where they let him swim away. The students are around age twenty but their names have not been released.

7 Buddy was part of a pair that were looking after two newborn chicks. Since he disappeared one of the chicks has died, although park staff don't know if this was a related event. Buddy's mate Francis is not able to leave the nest, as her partner is not there to help with the chicks.

8 There are now less than 20,000 pairs of African penguins that are breeding in the wild. A successful match like that of Buddy and Francis is important to make sure the species survives. If Buddy isn't found, it would be almost impossible to find Francis another partner.

African penguins pair for life

9 Mr Bailey explained that penguins only have one partner for life. He said that if they couldn't get Buddy back, they would try to match Francis to another bird, but it might not be successful.

10 Mr Bailey said that he was hopeful that Buddy would come back to the beach before he became too weak.

11 Buddy is not the first penguin that was stolen. In 2012, two British tourists stole a penguin from an Australian theme park and were fined $1,000 AUD (£640) each. The tourists took the penguin to their hotel room after they had drunk too much at a party.

12 Elsewhere last week, a couple in a town in Peru found a penguin in their kitchen after they heard loud noises in the night. The couple thought there was a burglar downstairs but it was just the animal looking for food.

Sources:BBC News, CNN, Daily Mail

4 Checking understanding

Read the text again and put (T) or false (F) next to each statement below.

1. The students wanted to hurt the penguin.
2. The penguin won't be able to survive outside the park.
3. One of Buddy's chicks died because he wasn't there to look after it.
4. It will be very difficult to find Francis another mate.
5. The park manager thinks that Buddy won't come back.

5 Find the words

Find a word or phrase in the text which means ...

1. happening now *(phrase - ing, P.1)*: _____
2. stay alive in a natural place that is not managed by humans *(phrase, P.2)*: _____
3. actually *(phrase, P.4)*: _____
4. taking care of something or someone (*(phrasal verb - ing, P.7)*: _____
5. having sex to produce young animals *(verb - ing, P.8)*: _____
6. take action so that something happens *(phrase, P.8)*: _____
7. charged an amount of money for breaking a law *(verb -ed, P.11)*: _____

6 Collocations

Match the adjectives on the left to the nouns on the right to make collocations from the text.

1. a desperate   a. chicks
2. great   b. danger
3. a short   c. distance
4. newborn   d. event
5. a successful   e. match
6. a related   f. search

Now, make up a sentence for each collocation.

7 | Talking point

Discuss any of the questions below in pairs or groups.

1. Do you agree with keeping animals in zoos? Why/why not?

2. Do you think stories about missing zoo animals are important news?

3. Do you think stealing animals from zoos is a serious crime? What should be the punishment for this crime?