

Chapter summaries for the Explorer – Chapters 1 to 6.

Chapter 1 – Flight



Fred

is in the



plane



and it is



taking off.



He is



concentrating on



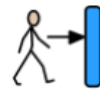
what the

pilot

is doing. They are



travelling



towards

Manaus. We also



meet



a girl

and her



younger brother



and



another girl.

There are

4



four

children

in total. It is



extremely



hot

inside the



plane.



Suddenly

the



pilot



becomes



ill



and



dies,

and the



plane crashes



into

the



Amazon



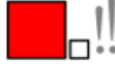
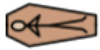
Rainforest

below them.

Chapter 2 – The Green Dark



Fred finds himself alone in the rainforest, wondering if he is



dead. There is a huge fire from the burning plane that has



crashed. He has burns on his body and he is in pain but nothing



is broken. Suddenly he hears voices and finds the girl and her



brother from the plane. They also find the other girl and the



children all introduce themselves as Con, Lila and Max. Max, who

5



is only five, is very upset and won't walk on his own. He screams



when he sees a snake by Fred's foot. Then they run and

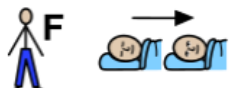


Fred carries Max until they find a clearing in the rainforest. The



children fall asleep.

Chapter 3 – The Den



Fred wakes up next to the two girls, Con and Lila. Max has



disappeared. Fred finds him. All the children are covered in blood



from the plane crash. Con and Lila argue about what they should



do next - Con thinks they should go back to the plane in



case people see them and rescue them, whereas Lila thinks that



they should stay in the clearing until they work out a way to



get to Manaus themselves. Lila turns to Fred to make a decision.



He notices that the clearing seems strange, then he finds a



den that had obviously been built by someone. Inside it's like a



large tent and Fred finds flints, half of which have been chipped



into the shape of arrowheads. Con is worried about the person



/ people who made the den coming back to eat the



children, but Fred shows her that it's an old den and no-one
















has been there for a long time. Max says that he is staying there and







that makes the decision for them.






Chapter 4 – The River

 Fred and  Lila  find  leaves to  fix the  roof of the  den,

 while  Con  sits on her own.  Fred  thinks about his  father and we






 learn that  Fred  went to  boarding school because his  father was





 too busy to  look after him. The  children  realise that they

 need water, and  Fred says that you can  follow  ants to  water.




They  find a  trail of large  ants and  follow them, making a



 trail as they  go  out of  clothes. Eventually they  find the

 river, and  Fred  jumps in. All of the  children then get  into

the  water when they  see that  Fred is  ok, and they  wash

the  blood and  dirt  off themselves. Suddenly  Fred  realises

that there are  piranhas in the  water. They all get out and  walk

 back to the  clearing.

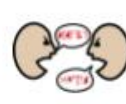
Chapter 5 – Food (Almost)



Fred is extremely hungry as he realises that he hasn't eaten



since he got on the plane. He suggests eating insects,



as well as finding fruit and berries. Con is argumentative and gets



cross that Fred thinks he's the leader. Lila heads off to find



food and comes back with cocoa pods with larvae






(grubs) in them to eat. The children get the grubs out of








the pods and they work out how they will eat them.





Chapter 6 – Fire

 The children  mix the  grubs with the  cocoa beans and





 make a paste for  pancakes. Then they need to make a  fire so

 Fred goes to  find  kindling (sticks /  leaves for  burning).  Lila

 suggests using  flint to make a  spark, but  Fred realises  you

also need  steel.  Lila sees  Fred's  watch, which is made of



 steel, but  Fred doesn't want to  give it up as it is  precious to






him.  Lila says it's the  only way, so  Fred gives  it to her and they

 make a  fire. The children  cook the  pancakes and  eat them,

 even though they are pretty disgusting. Then  Con needs to

 go to the toilet, so they  decide on a  place for the  girls and the

 boys to have  separate toilets. They call it the 'lavo-tree' which they all

 find  funny and they  can't  stop  laughing.