

Broken ice



Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer the questions, using full sentences.

1. What other books has Kevin Crossley-Holland written? You may need to look on the internet or in a book to find the answer to this question.

2. What words does the author use to describe the water? Why are these words so effective?

3. Find all the words that the author has used to describe the ice: its appearance, the noises it makes and the way it feels. Do you think his description is effective?

4. We can tell from the story that Sian is panicking. How is Gatty reacting to the crisis?

5. What do midwives do? You may need to look in a dictionary to find the answer to this question.

6. On a separate piece of paper imagine that you are involved in a similar rescue. Describe what happens.

Notes for teachers

Help the children to read this passage, ensuring that they understand the story. Discuss the questions with them and support them in writing answers, using correctly punctuated full sentences, by asking them to say their sentences out loud before writing them down. To answer questions 2 and 3 encourage the children to look at the wording very carefully, discussing how the words convey the coldness of the ice, the calmness of Gatty and the danger that all three children faced.