

The Deep, Deep World Practice Activities

Citizens of the Sea

The people have a choice to make. The oceans are rising, chewing and swallowing shoreline with every reach of the tide. Earthquakes ravage, splitting the barren, over-crowded land. Rust-tinged air encases the sputtering planet.

Leaving land, they embark on a journey. The last stop is the ocean floor. Surrounded by towering mountain ranges, a crystal dome rises. Light within the dome pierces the ocean's murky darkness. Finger-like tunnels connect the crystal dome to single domes. It is an aquatic city.

Sleek and speedy submarines transport riders from land to water. The trip is oneway. There is no turning back.

First, please read the story.

Next, answer the following questions:

1. Where did the story take place?
2. When did the story take place?
3. What was the setting like in the story?
4. What type of verbs did the author use: past, present, or future tense? List 3 examples.

Finally, locate descriptive words, details, and images the author used to create a realistic and accurate setting.

How would you describe the mood of the story?

Compare your answers with **Kimberly's Think Aloud**.

Before You Read:

One of the most important aspects an author must choose for a story is the setting.

The setting includes:

Location of the story (General or Specific) and **Time period of the story** (Past, Present, or Future)

A strong setting unifies the story by helping the author describe the characters, location, and plot accurately and realistically.

A well-written setting can also help establish the mood and atmosphere of the story.

Planet Home

The search for a new world had taken one billion years. The mother ship had flown through millions of galaxies.

Before them was a sky-blue planet. Could it sustain the life of the colony? The mother ship hovered. Its massive doors opened silently as robotic probes spun forth. The robotic probes explored, beaming images back to the mother ship.

The images were astounding. It was as if the entire planet had been submerged in stillness. There were perfectly circular craters filled with icy water. Mutant plants stretched motionless toward two red suns. Every tip of the mountain range rose to exactly the same height as the other. Miles of silver sand stretched out smooth and even, like every grain had been arranged by hand. The robotic probes gathered an air sample. It filled the mother ship. The colony drew in one sweet breath after another. They were home.

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Compare your answers with **Sergio's Think Aloud**