

*Kensuke's Kingdom - Michael Morpurgo*

**Lesson 1**

**Before reading...**

Look at the front cover.

- What do you think the book will be about?
- What things can you see on the front cover?
- What sort of story will it be?
- Who might enjoy it?

**Now read the blurb...**

- Were any of your predictions correct?



## **Comprehension**

### **Chapter 1: Peggy Sue**

1. Michael disappeared in 1988, why did it take so long for him to tell the world about what happened?
2. Why has Michael finally decided to tell all about what happened?
3. Who lived in his house, before his disappearance?
4. What was his early life like, what did he used to do every day?
5. Why did his Dad call his school the 'monkey school'?
6. Why did his team win so easily when they played on his pitch?
7. Why were Sundays special?
8. Where did his parents work?
9. Why did they like sailing so much?
10. What was he better at than his parents?
11. Why didn't they go sailing anymore?
12. What was the big upset that happened to Michael?
13. Why did his Mum not want to go?
14. What is the name of the boat?
15. How long did they intend to be away?
16. What was given to Michael as a lucky mascot? What was so special about the lucky mascot?

## **Chapter 2: Water, Water Everywhere**

1. When the sun shone what did they used to do?
2. What was a real luxury?
3. Was there much to do for the three of them on board?
4. Who was allowed to be idle?
5. What animals did Stella see?
6. What would they all do when they saw sea animals?
7. Why did they sometimes find Stella annoying?
8. Why did they not regret bringing Stella?
9. What else would he keep close by him and why?
10. What did Michael hope his parents would forget?
11. Why did it make sense to have only one person in charge on the boat?
12. What subjects did he study?
13. Why did he find it easy to write his log?

### **Chapter 3: Ship's Log**

1. Why wouldn't Michaels' parents let him take the watch through the Channel?
2. What do his parents do together? And who's winning?
3. What is Michael sick of already?
4. What will be the problem if they sail off course?
5. What did M have to write and draw about even though he hadn't seen it?
6. What does Stella love to do?
7. What did he call his football side when they played on the beach?
8. What were the only English words the Brazilians knew?
9. What did they do on Christmas Day?
10. What was Michael given?
11. Why did he give his parents a coin?
12. What was so special about the island of St Helena?
13. What were they going to do in Africa?
14. What terrible thing happened to Stella when they had left Africa?
15. How many times did the boat go by before she was picked up?
16. How long did they stay in Australia?
17. What animals etc did he see in Australia?
18. What was it like after they left Sydney?
19. How do you think Michael felt?
20. How did Michael fall in?

## Vocabulary

1. deceive
2. reservoir
3. skipper
4. exhilarating
5. ship's log
6. galley
7. laid off
8. redundant
9. fanatic
10. undisputed
11. legible
12. haul
13. adamant
14. talisman
15. gale
16. damp
17. idle
18. veer
19. pitch
20. winch
21. prance
22. elated
23. cacophony
24. surreptitious
25. reluctant

## HOMEWORK

How does Morpurgo make the **opening** of the story **exciting**?

**OR**

Write a **short story** using **at least 5 new words** (above) that we learned from these chapters.