

跨学科分级阅读

Reading Explorations

(美) Tony Napoli 著
Sandra Widener

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(美) Sandra W. Dener 著

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藏书章

Joanne Suter, Sandra Widener: Reading Explorations

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出版说明

长久以来，英语学习者都有一个误区：学习者有地或无意地陷入无穷的题型和枯燥的单词记忆中，疲惫而低效。即使单词记住了，各种题会做了，英语水平仍未提高，仍然是不会说，不会写，更谈不上用英语思维。英语语言作为一种工具，没有附着在一定的内容上，没有同掌握知识和汲取信息结合起来。学校的学生更是如此。英语作为基础技能性的课程，课本中的内容有的明显滞后于学生思维的发展，涉及的知识面较窄，教学中机械式的识记活动较多，加之大量的应试练习，使学生在英语学习中缺乏信心和兴趣。随着学生年龄的增长和知识的丰富，他们渴望获得更多的信息，满足其求知欲，获得精神上的满足。鉴此，北京华章图文信息有限公司引进并出版了《跨学科分级阅读》(Reading Explorations)。

在众多的英语阅读教材中，《跨学科分级阅读》有其显著的特点。原版引进，学生能在纯正的英语环境中增长知识，提高英语水平。本书涉猎了人文、自然、社会、数学以及与生活相关的各种技能知识。内容丰富、有趣，由浅入深，循序渐进，符合初、中级英语

学习者的知识水平、认识水平和心理发展水平。极大地丰富学生知识的同时，深化了学生的思想观念、文化观和价值观，使学生在思想上更深地理解人与人，人与社会，人与自然之间的关系，从而认识到三者之间应亲切、和谐地生存和发展。

全书分为六册，每册有四个独立的章节：

社会知识（**Social Studies**）——涵盖了历史、世界文化、经济、政治、重大事件以及重要人物等各方面的知识。

科学（**Science**）——包括物理科学、地球科学、生命科学等领域，简明易懂，突出专业知识的通俗性、实用性。

数学（**Math**）——涉及到一般的数学计算、质量测量、数据的核算等，题材均来源于生活，没有纯数学的枯燥，使学生能轻松地掌握一般的数学技能。

生活技巧（**Life Skills**）——包括健康问题、休闲旅游、消费指南等一系列与生活息息相关的常识，在学习外语的同时，可获取一些实用的生活技巧。

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Social Studies

In these stories you will read about the destruction of a great city and the sinking of a great ship. You will also read about the two world wars.

The 1906 Earthquake

WORDS TO KNOW

San Francisco / , sæn frən ' siskəu/ a big city in California

earthquake / ' ə:θkweik / a shaking movement of the earth

damage / ' dæmɪdʒ/ harm that makes something have less value

dynamite / ' dainəmaɪt / the material used to blow something up

debris / ' debri:z / the remains of things that have been destroyed

Once in a while, something happens that changes many lives. In 1906, the lives of the people of **San Francisco** were changed in a minute.

The date was April 18, 1906. It was very early in the morning. San Francisco was very quiet. Some bakers were just opening their shops. But most people were still home in bed.

Then, at 5:12 A.M., the ground began to shake hard. The **earthquake** lasted for a little more than a minute. When it was over, much of the city had been destroyed.

The huge earthquake did great **damage**. It ripped apart brick buildings. It broke wooden houses into splinters. It pulled pipes and steel rails from the ground. It made bridges crack and fall. Many people were hurt. In one long minute, the earthquake changed many lives.

When the shaking stopped, people came out into the streets. Many were shocked at what they saw. Soon, they heard cries for help. People trapped in fallen buildings were calling out. Those outside tried to rescue them.

Then people noticed the smoke. Fires were breaking out all over the city. The earthquake had ripped out electrical wires. It had caused gas pipes to explode. Stoves and gas lamps had

been knocked over. To make things worse, the city's fire alarms were not working. The earthquake had destroyed them, too.

Still, firefighters did their best. All over the city, they hitched horses to the fire wagons. They got to many of the fires. They attached their hoses to fire hydrants. No water came out! Most of the city's water pipes were broken. With no water to stop them, the fires spread quickly.

1. What damage did the earthquake do?
2. How do you think the shaking earth could do so much damage?

The police and the army tried another way to stop the fires. They used **dynamite**. They blew up buildings close to the fires. Where buildings once stood, there were big spaces. They hoped these spaces would stop the fires from spreading. The plan didn't work very well.

The fires burned for three days. Finally, most of the fires just burned out. They burned until there was nothing left to burn.

The city was in ruins. City hall was destroyed. Hotels, libraries, restaurants, and theaters were gone. Dozens of churches and schools were in ashes. The whole downtown area was destroyed. More than 250,000 homes were lost.

Homeless people walked the streets. They carried what they owned with them. Many people went up into the hills.

City workers got busy right away. They tried to get help for the city and its people. People without homes needed places to stay. Injured people needed care. Almost everyone needed food and water.

News in the city was hard to come by. Newspaper offices were destroyed. The phones did not work. People only knew what they heard from each other.

News of the earthquake spread quickly outside the city. Many other cities sent help. Trains came from around the country. They carried food, clothes, and other needed things. Congress voted to give the city \$2.5 million. Money also came from many other countries.

At first, life was very hard. The army put up tent camps for the homeless. People camped out in the parks. Some people still had their homes. But they were afraid to return. They thought an earthquake might hit again.

Little by little, the people of the city cleaned up. It was a big job. They used picks and shovels. They loaded the **debris** on wagons. Horses took the loaded wagons away to the dump outside the city.

People began to rebuild. By the end of May, almost everyone had running water. Electricity was back by June. The biggest job was replacing all the destroyed buildings. That took much longer.

Still, within three years a lot had been done. About 20,000 buildings had been replaced. The people of San Francisco had done a great job. The city was on its way back.

For some, life returned to normal. For others, life would never be the same. They would always remember 5:12 A.M. on April 18, 1906. It was the longest minute of their lives.

3. What caused the most damage to the city?
4. What were some problems that the firefighters faced after the earthquake?
5. What was the most important thing to be done right after the earthquake? Why?
6. Why do you think people help others in places far away when something bad happens?

The Titanic

WORDS TO KNOW

watertight / 'wɔ:tətaɪt / made so that water cannot get in or out

icebergs / 'aɪs bɜ:gz / big mountains of ice that float in the ocean

crew / kru: / the people who sail a ship

lifeboats / 'laɪfbəʊts / small boats carried by a large ship. They are used to save people if the ship sinks.

The builders said that the *Titanic* was the biggest, grandest, and safest ship ever made. They said it would never sink. It was big and grand, but it was not safe. The *Titanic* went down on April 13, 1912.

On April 10, 1912, a ship whistle blew. The people on the ship waved to those on the dock. The huge ship began to move. Slowly, the *Titanic* sailed away from Great Britain, an island country in Europe. It headed for New York.

The *Titanic* was a great, new ship. It was the biggest ship ever built. It was as long as three football fields. The cabins where people slept were like fine hotel rooms. The dining room was the grandest ever built. Hundreds of people could eat at the same time.

The *Titanic* also was built for safety. The builders had made many **watertight** sections. Water could not leak from one section to another. If one section flooded, it could be closed off. Then water would not get into the other sections. The ship would not fill up with water. The builders said it was the first ship that could not sink.

This trip from Great Britain to New York was the first voyage of the *Titanic*. At that time,

there was only one way to cross the ocean: by ship. The *Titanic* was the grandest one ever built. Many people wanted to be on its first trip.

1. Today we cross the ocean by plane.
In 1912, how did people cross?
2. Where was the *Titanic* going on its first trip?

All the cabins on the *Titanic* were full for this trip. There were about 2,200 people on board. Many were rich and famous. Some were crossing the ocean to visit family and friends. Still others had business in the United States. The *Titanic* was the best ship to take!

The first few days of the voyage went smoothly. There were parties every day and night. All the people were having a wonderful time. By the evening of the fourth day, the ship was more than halfway across the Atlantic Ocean. It was traveling in icy water. In two days it would reach New York.

There were other ships in the area. They knew that the Atlantic Ocean was dangerous.