

Penny and the Falcons

Story by Rose Inserra

Illustrations by Wendy Leach



Penny and the Falcons

Level 20

Running Words 604 **Text Type** Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Science (Biological Sciences); Technologies (Digital)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 What did Penny use her binoculars for?
- 2 Why did Mike, the city ranger, say the falcons would be back soon after they left the nest?
- 3 How did Penny's friends at school watch the falcons' nest?

Inferential

- 4 What information did Mum find on the internet?
- 5 Why was Penny worried that the eggs were alone?
- 6 How did Mike know about how falcons behave?
- 7 Why would Mike be pleased if Penny and her friends watched the nest on the webcam?
- 8 Why did the falcons take turns to sit on the eggs in the nest?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 How do baby birds break out of their shells when they hatch?
- 10 Apart from a webcam, how else might city kids find out about wildlife?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 20	Narrative	<i>Yo-bot, the Classroom Robot</i>
Level 19	Narrative	<i>The Mini-Brick City</i>
Level 19	Narrative	<i>Nelson Gets a Fright</i>
Level 19	Narrative (Fable)	<i>Sparrow's Lesson</i>



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Chapter 1

Something Strange on the Window Sill

Penny and her mum lived in a tall apartment building in the city. Penny liked to look out of the window with her binoculars. She could see lots of things that were far away.

One day, Penny noticed something strange high up on the building next door.

“Mum, come and see this!” she cried.

“There’s something on that window sill.”



Mum looked through Penny's binoculars.

"I think it's a bird's nest," said Mum.

"It could be a falcon's nest."

Penny looked again.

"I can see three eggs in the nest!" she said.







Mum and Penny looked up falcons on the internet.

“It’s a peregrine falcon nest,” said Mum.

“The nest is called a scrape.”

“I didn’t know falcons lived in the city,” said Penny.

Mum read from the computer screen:

“Most of the time, falcons make their homes inside tree hollows. But in the cities, they make nests on tall buildings.”

“My home is a tall building, too,” said Penny, grinning.

“Just like the falcons’.”