AMAZING STORIES OF SURVIVAL

Pamela Rushby



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Amazing Stories of Survival

Level 28

Running Words 2261 **Text Type** Recount (Informative)

Curriculum Areas Humanities – Geography; Personal and Social Capability; Science

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the recounts in his or her own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

1 In a dangerous situation, what issues should a person consider?
2 What initially saved the lives of the Beaconsfield miners?
3 What characteristic did all the survivors in this book share?

Inferential

4 How did Kim Hardt's chance of survival increase by staying with his vehicle?
5 What could have happened to Jake Denham if it had started snowing on the mountain?
6 How would skiing with a buddy have helped Jake Denham on this occasion?
7 Why did the two trapped miners agree to share the muesli bar?
8 Why did rescuers provide the miners with a camera?
9 During the Beaconsfield rescue, what was the greatest risk to the trapped miners?
10 Why was concrete used to secure the area close to where the miners were trapped?

Applied Knowledge

11 Why do some people seek challenging adventures?
12 Why was Kim Hardt so unprepared for the journey on the Canning Stock Route?
13 How would messages from their families have helped the two trapped miners?

Vocabulary

Replace the verb 'assess' in this sentence:
Brant and Todd began to assess their situation.

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 28	Book	Information Report	*Special Effects: Bringing Movies to Life*
Level 28	Book	Information Report	*Southern Skies*

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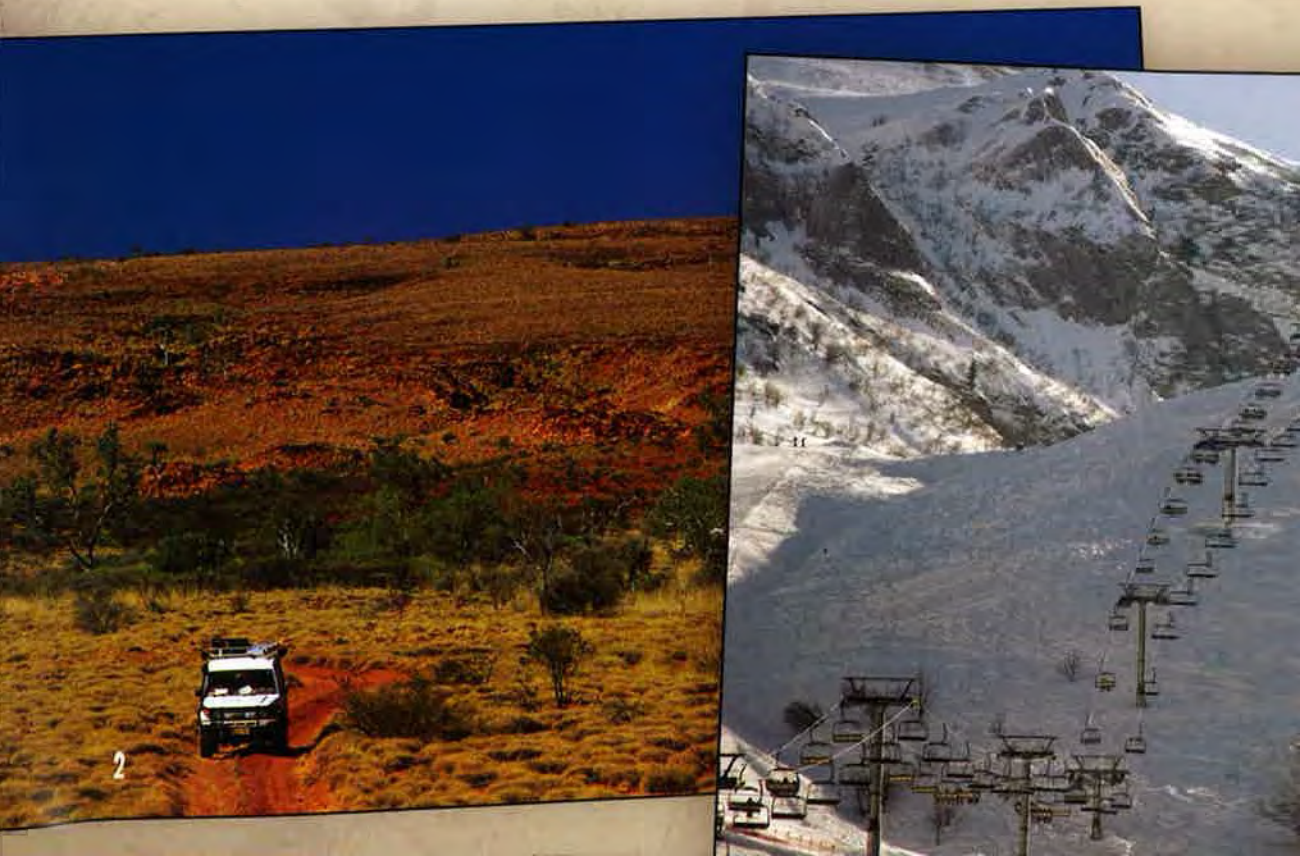
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DON'T PANIC!

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Sometimes, people find themselves in very dangerous situations. Someone could be stranded in a scorching desert, lost on a snow-covered mountain, or even trapped in a collapsed mine. It can seem impossible to survive in situations like these, when a single decision might mean the difference between life and death.

It is vital to be prepared in case something goes wrong, but the most important thing is not to panic when faced with danger. Survival experts say that fear and panic can stop people from thinking clearly, which makes it difficult to plan an escape from a **perilous** situation.



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When somebody is in a dangerous situation, survival experts suggest they stop, sit down, think through the situation and consider the following.

- What do I have that could help me to survive?
- What can I do to assist rescuers who may be on their way?
- Is there any shelter, warmth, food and water?
- Is it possible to signal to rescuers?

The people in this book were trapped, or lost, in different ways. Their reactions were all very different. These are the stories of the decisions they made and how they survived.



STRANDED IN THE DESERT

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People looking for a real four-wheel-drive challenge often consider driving the Canning Stock Route in Western Australia. It has been called one of the greatest four-wheel-drive adventures in the world.

The Canning Stock Route is a track that runs from Halls Creek, in the Kimberley region, to Wiluna, in the Mid West region. The route was first used in 1910 by **drovers** moving their cattle across the state. Today, it is 1900 kilometres of rough tracks through the desert and over sand dunes, with only the occasional well for water.



The Canning Stock Route connects Wiluna and Halls Creek in Western Australia.

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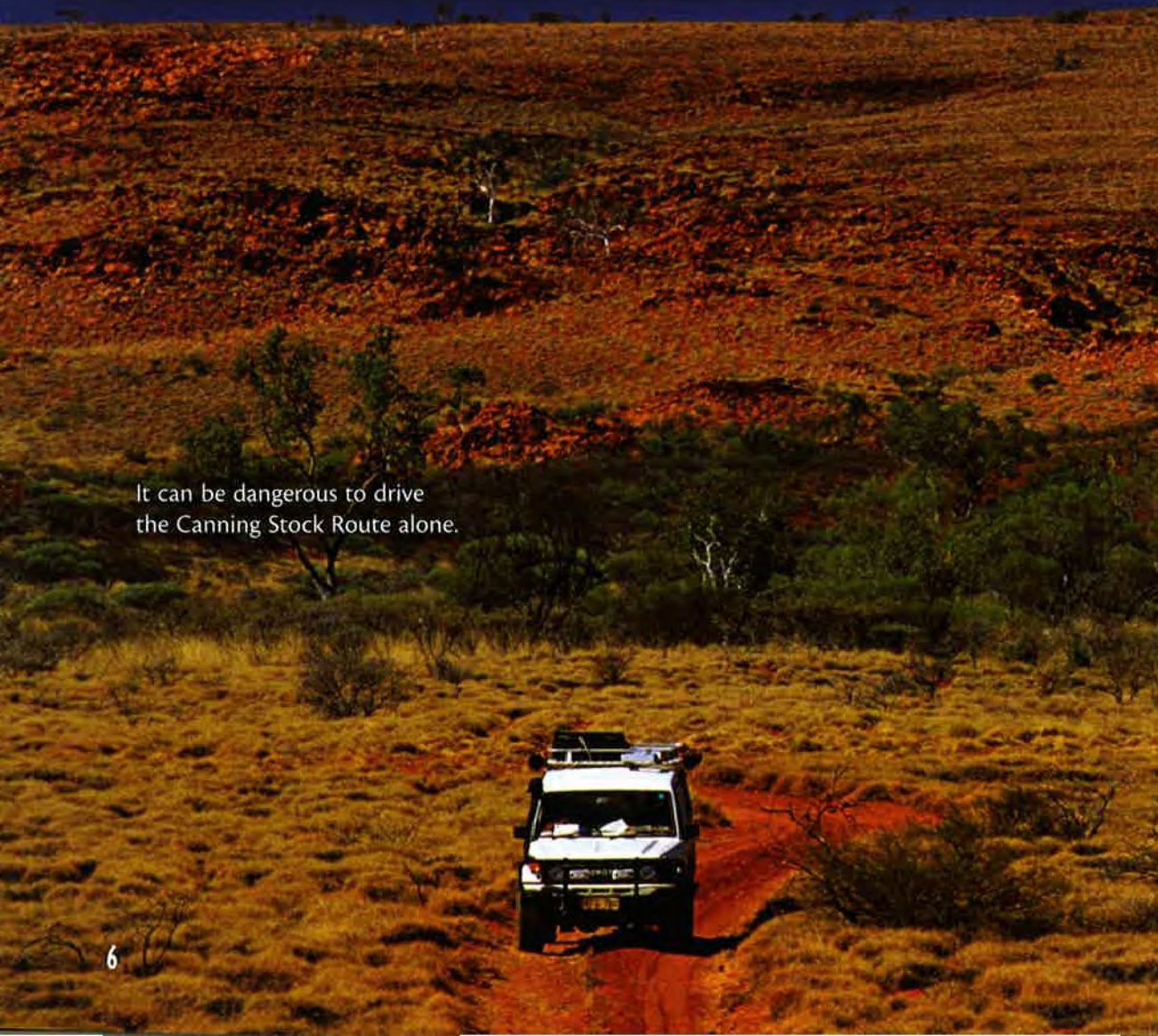
Driving the Canning Stock Route takes between two and three weeks, and four-wheel-drive **enthusiasts** have to plan very carefully before they set out. They usually travel in **convoy**, during the cooler months of the year, and their vehicles are well maintained and stocked with food, water, spare tyres and communication devices. Fuel supplies need to be arranged in advance, as there is nowhere to buy petrol in the desert.



There are signs at the start of the Canning Stock Route to warn travellers of the dangers.

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In October 2002, a 36-year-old German tourist named Kim Hardt set out alone on the Canning Stock Route. He had seen a documentary about the route on television in Germany, and thought it seemed like a challenging, exciting adventure.



It can be dangerous to drive the Canning Stock Route alone.

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At home in Germany, Kim bought a map of the Canning Stock Route. He travelled to Australia and hired a small urban vehicle (SUV). He departed from Wiluna in Western Australia, aiming for Darwin in the Northern Territory. He did not tell anyone where he was planning to go, and he set out on the Canning Stock Route by himself, expecting to drive it in two or three days. He had no phone or **GPS equipment**, and only a small amount of food and water.



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Stranded in a scorching desert. Lost on a snow-covered mountain. Trapped in a caved-in mine. The people in this book all found themselves in different, dangerous situations. These are the amazing stories of the decisions they made and how they survived.



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