

Springboard^{into} Comprehension

Identifying Detail Why Are There Bears in the Sky?

Main Idea Show Some Backbone

Sequencing Life on Venus

Compare and Contrast Communities of the Desert

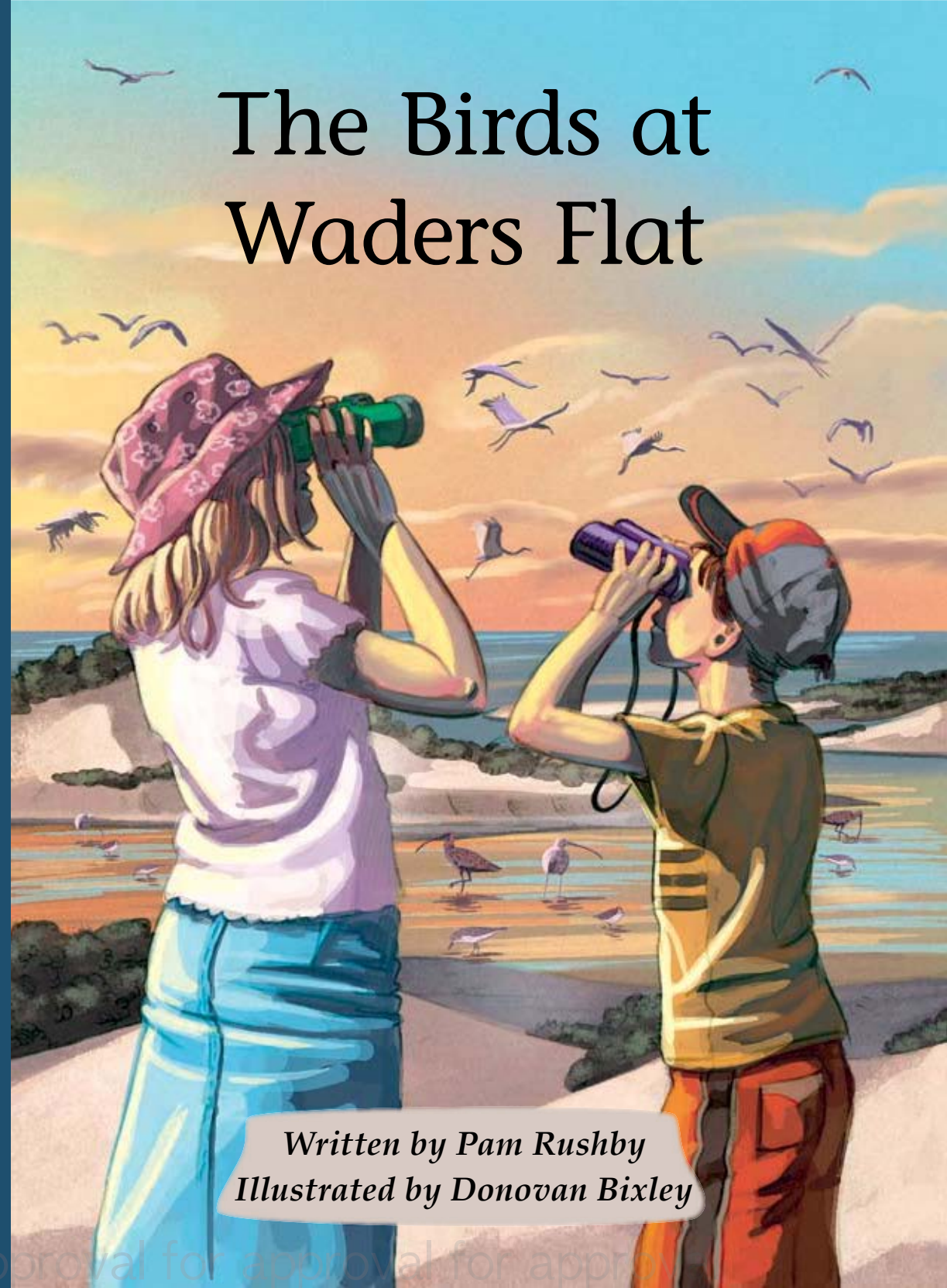
29

Fact and Opinion The Birds at Waders Flat

Cause and Effect Global Changes



The Birds at Waders Flat



*Written by Pam Rushby
Illustrated by Donovan Bixley*

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The Birds at Waders Flat



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When Sam and Annie went to stay with their Gran and Grandpa in the holidays, they saw something was different. Gran and Grandpa had a beach shack set back on a high point overlooking the sand and mudflat at Waders Flat. This year, the shack wasn't back from the edge of the point anymore. It was right on the edge and the point was crumbling.

“What’s happened here?” Grandpa asked Mr Lee, from the next shack.

“Erosion,” said Mr Lee. “People from the council came to look at it. They guess it’s natural erosion. But I believe it’s the new breakwater they’ve built. The sand gets caught there.”

“We believe they should build up the point with rocks,” said Mrs Walker, from another shack. “We think ~~that~~’ll stop the erosion. But the council says ~~there’s no~~ money to do that.”

“So your ~~shacks~~ will just drop into the sea!” said Annie. “That’s not fair!”



"I think it's worse than that. If this point goes, the sea will cover the mudflat. What'll happen to all the wading birds that feed there?" said Gran. "They'll probably all die. I think we should write to the newspapers. We should write to our Member of Parliament, too! In my opinion, she ought to do something!"

"We've tried that," said Mr Lee. "Everyone just says there's no money. It looks like our shacks, and the wetlands, will go."

"I expect this is our last holiday at Waders Flat, then," said Sam.

"I guess all the birds will have to go somewhere else," said Annie.

