

Springboard^{into} Comprehension 4

Main Idea Fossil Fuels
 A Place in Space

Sequencing The Best Holiday Ever

Black Rock

Compare and Contrast From Me to You
 Your Choice!

Fact and Opinion Community Views
 The Daily News

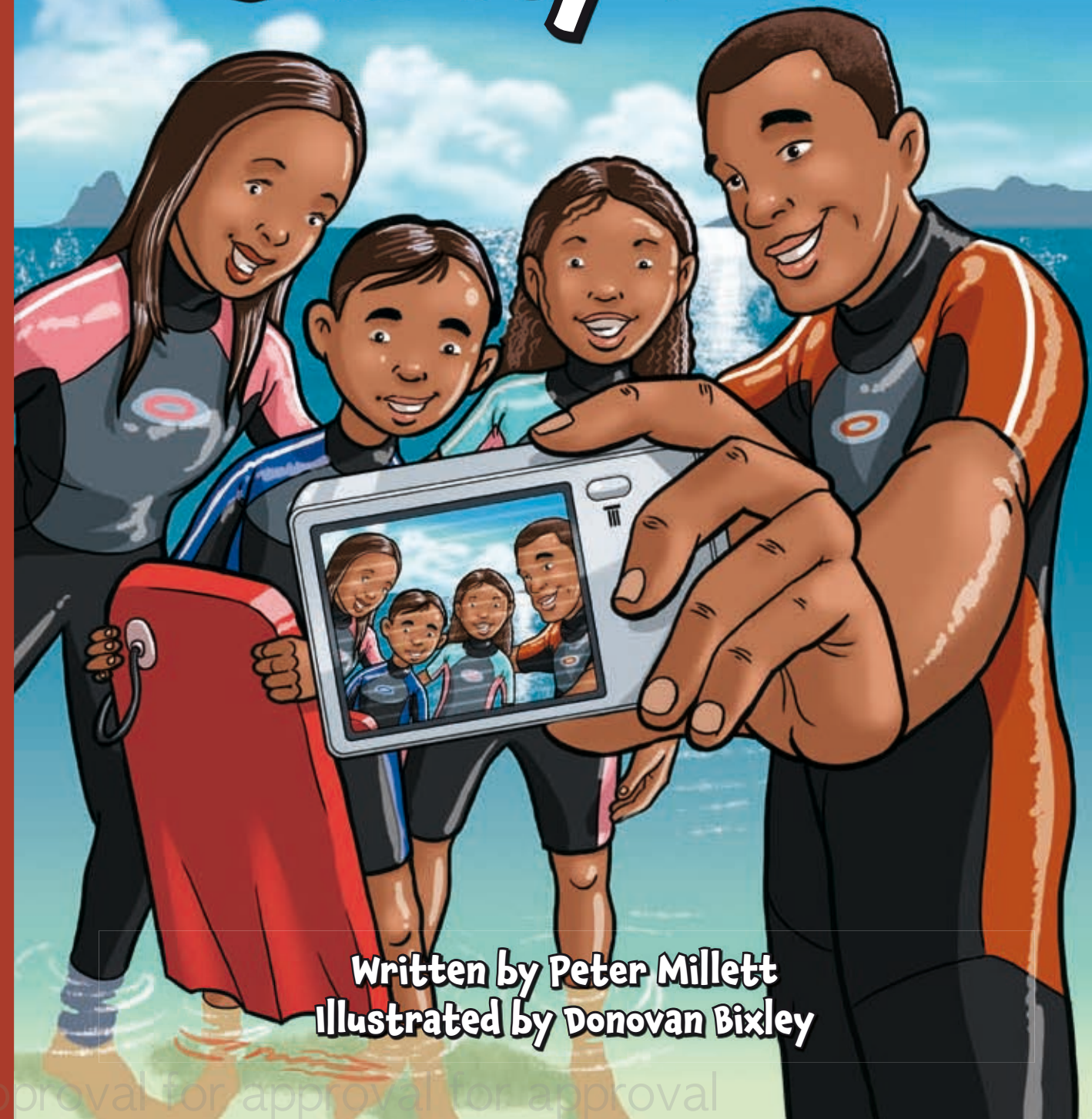
Cause and Effect Natural Disasters
 The Invaders

Bias and Prejudice Have Your Say!
 Save Our Skate Park

RA 8.5–9.5



The Best Holiday Ever



Written by Peter Millett
Illustrated by Donovan Bixley

The Best Holiday Ever



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On the Road

It was the beginning of the Wilsons' annual summer holiday. Dad slowly backed the family car down the driveway after everyone had firmly fastened their seatbelts.

"OK, everybody, let's go through the holiday checklist before we leave," Dad said. "Jane, have you got the digital camera and the battery charger?"

"Yes, dear," Mum replied.

"Zac, did you make sure that all the windows in the house are locked?"

"Yep," Zac nodded. "And I checked that the laundry door was locked as well."

"Good," Dad continued. "Talía, did you remember to give Mrs Jackson the spare key to our house so she can feed the goldfish while we're away?"

"Yes, Dad," Talía sighed.

"Excellent. Well, I think that's everything covered." Dad slipped on his sunglasses. "OK, everybody, let's roll!"

"Oh, honey, I think you forgot one last little thing," Mum cried.

"What's that?" Dad looked across at Mum.

Mum winked. "You forgot to smile – this is meant to be a holiday, after all!"



Two hours later, the Wilson family was barrelling down the coastal highway on their way to the holiday camp. Suddenly, the traffic came to a grinding halt.

Talia leaned out the window. "Hey, looks like a boat has fallen off the back of a trailer in the middle of the road, blocking both lanes of traffic."

"Oh, no, we don't have time for this delay," Dad groaned, tapping the controls on his GPS.

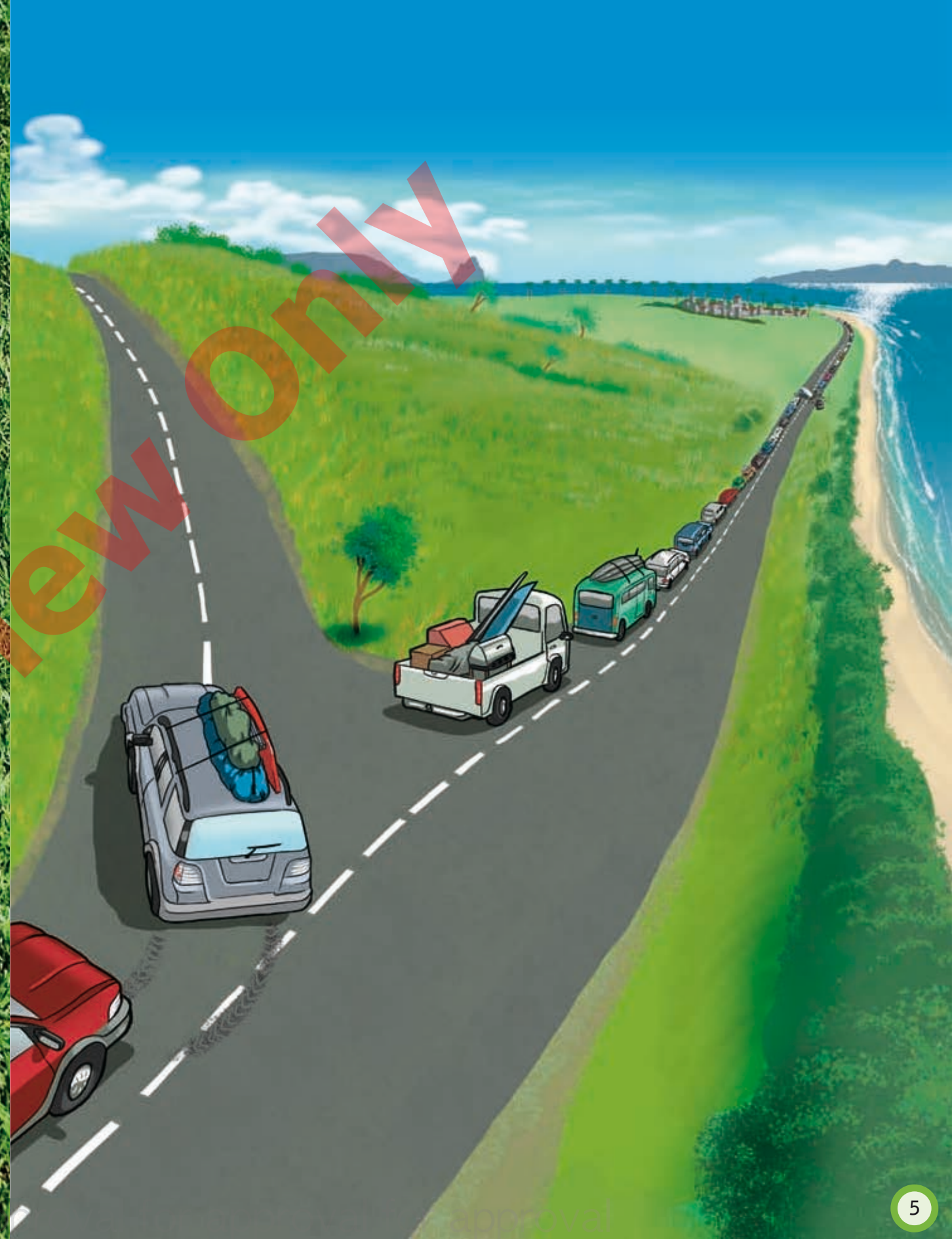
"What are you doing, Mike?" Mum asked.

"I'm going to find a different way to get to the camping ground. I don't want to waste time sitting here," said Dad. The GPS beeped and a red light flashed on the screen. "Yep, I've got it. If we head inland and use the northern bypass, we can completely avoid this delay. It's not the most direct way of getting to the camping ground, but it sure beats sitting here doing nothing."

Mum looked at the map and frowned. "If we drive inland, we'll miss all the beautiful coastal scenery."

Dad swung the car around and headed down a side exit. "I know we will, but getting there on time is more important."

Mum looked longingly at the driving map Dad had given her earlier.



Driving Map for Spring and Spa Holiday Camp

1. Depart from Richards Road 1.6 km
2. At the roundabout, take the third exit onto Ewen Drive 2.4 km
3. Turn left onto Tennyson Road 8.7 km
4. Turn right onto the upper expressway (SH 1) 33.05 km
5. Continue straight onto the coastal highway (SH 1) 60.03 km
6. Turn left into Surfers Point Road (SH 1) 37.70 km
7. Arrive at destination – Spring and Spa Holiday Camp .6 km

Total Distance: 144.08 km



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