



These notes are designed so that you can use them as a guide for teaching or alternatively you can give them to a group of students who will then complete the reading and activities independently or with a partner.

Each set of notes has:

- An activity grid
- The science content and knowledge
- The science vocabulary in the glossary
- The answers to the quiz
- Questions for each chapter to guide reading

There is more than one way to read this book. Here are four examples. No one way is better than the another. You may also like to use the graphic organizers to help guide your reading.

- You can skim through the pages of the entire book, stopping at and studying the diagrams. Then check the glossary to clarify your understanding of any unknown science-related words. This will give you the background science information before you read the story. Then go back and read the story.
- You can read the blurb on the back cover, then jump straight into reading Chapter 1. Read the story as if there were no diagrams or bolded words at all. When you have finished, go back and study the diagrams and glossary words to add to your knowledge.

- You can do a combination of both the above. Read the back cover blurb to find out the storyline. Study the initial diagrams. Then read the book, stopping to consolidate your understanding of the science concepts. Check out the bolded words in the glossary if you are unsure of their meaning.
- You can read the book chapter by chapter, stopping and discussing the story and the science as you go.

When you have finished reading, take the test. You should get six out of six. If you aren't sure of an answer, follow the quiz clues at the end of the book.

Now do one or both of the activities. When you have finished these, complete the black line master activities.

<b>Book Title</b>	<b>Book Activity 1</b>	<b>Book Activity 2</b>	<b>Graphic Organiser 1</b>	<b>Graphic Organiser 2</b>	<b>Black Line Master 1</b>	<b>Black Line Master 2</b>	<b>Black Line Master 3</b>
<b>The Funniest Ferret</b>	Literacy Vocabulary	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Inferential	Multiple Intelligence Musical	Values Tolerance
<b>Sky Farmers</b>	Multiple Intelligence Linguistic	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Comprehension Inferential	Values Caring
<b>Net Navigator</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Understanding
<b>Rumbling Beneath the Surface</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science History	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Intrapersonal	Values Care & Compassion
<b>Slimy Slug Planet</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Respect
<b>Revenge!</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Intrapersonal	Values Feelings
<b>Bad Moon Rising</b>	Comprehension Literal	Science History	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Naturalist	Values Freedom
<b>T.C. Ami</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Numbers	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Logic	Values Caring
<b>Against the Odds</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Vocabulary	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Bodily Kinesthetic	Values Doing Your Best
<b>Get Me Out of Here</b>	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Caring
<b>Jed and the Master Robot</b>	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Interpersonal	Values Honesty
<b>The Useless Tree</b>	Comprehension Literal	Science Experiment	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Logic	Values Fair Go Freedom & Responsibility

# The Useless Tree

## Science Content and Knowledge:

Life Science: Plants

Level: Lower

Genre: Fantasy

Reading age: 9.2 years

## Science Vocabulary

absorb	reproduced
adapt	resources
deciduous	sap
environment	seedlings
evergreen	species
extinct	specimen
nutrients	texture
photosynthesis	trait
regenerate	

## Quiz Answers

*Question 1:*

Soil, sunlight, water

*Question 2:*

Photosynthesis

*Question 3:*

Young plants grown from seed

*Question 4:*

Leaves, stem, roots

*Question 5:*

Deciduous

*Question 6:*

Chlorophyll

## Study Guide

Prologue

What is a prologue? What does it tell the reader? Read the prologue and jot down any important notes you find about the story.

Chapter 1 – A Weird World

Why do you think the author chose this title?  
What is a weird world?

Chapter 2 – Reign of Regina

Chapter 2 provides information about the character Regina. What does it mean to reign? What type of ruler would Regina be? Using the information from the previous chapters jot down some notes on Regina’s reign.

Chapter 3 – The Great Battle

After reading Chapter 2, you will know that Regina has decided that there will be a great battle. Do you think it is a good idea? What could be the consequences of a battle?

Chapter 4 – Banished

Read Chapter 4 to find out what the consequences of Ulysses’s actions were. How do you feel about Regina and her ways now?

Chapter 5 – Up Where They Belong

How do you think the story will end? Think back to the previous chapters. Predict how the story will end.

Epilogue

What is the purpose of an epilogue? What information does it provide the reader. Read the epilogue. Was it what you thought it would be?

# Graphic Organizer 1– Literacy

## The Useless Tree

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- Comprehension – Inferential

There is both fact and fiction in this story. Write down information that you think is fiction about trees. Write down information you think is factual about trees.

Fiction	
Page	Example
Fact	
Page	Example



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## Graphic Organizer 2 – Science

### The Useless Tree

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- Science Inquiry

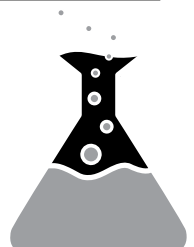
Fill out Column 1 before you start reading.

Fill out Column 2 as you read.

Fill out Column 3 after you have taken the test.

Fill out Column 4 when you have completed all the activities.

What I already know about trees and plants	What I think I will learn as I read this book	What I found out from reading the book	Questions about trees and plants that I still have unanswered



# The Useless Tree

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- Vocabulary

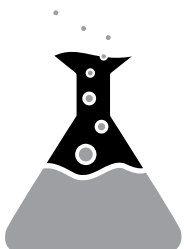
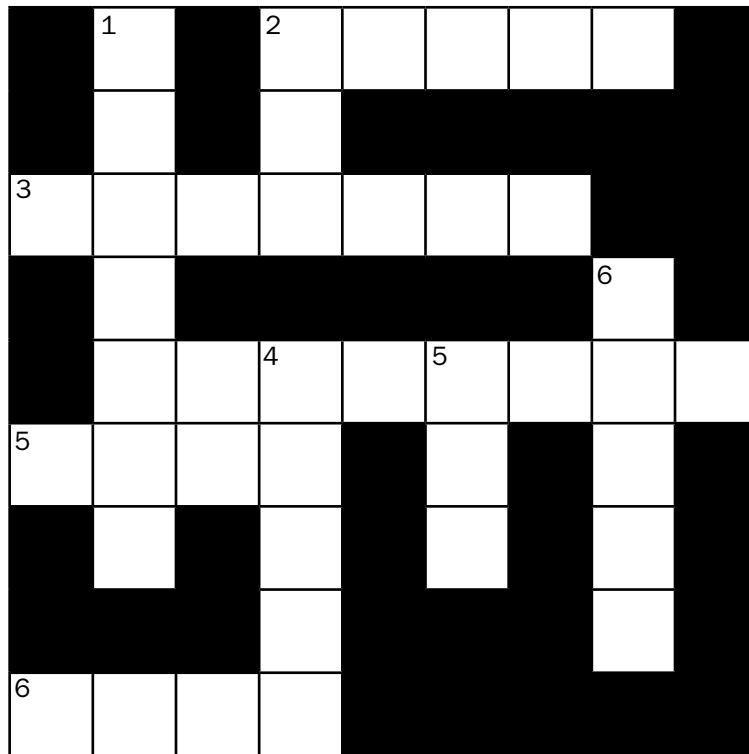
Complete the crossword.

Down

1. A name that identifies a group of organisms
2. When wood decays
4. Change to meet the needs in an environment
5. Liquid inside trees
6. A feature that is passed from parent to offspring

Across

2. These tell you how old trees are
3. Feel or look of a surface beginning with T
4. To take in
5. Plants grow from it
6. Underground part of a plant



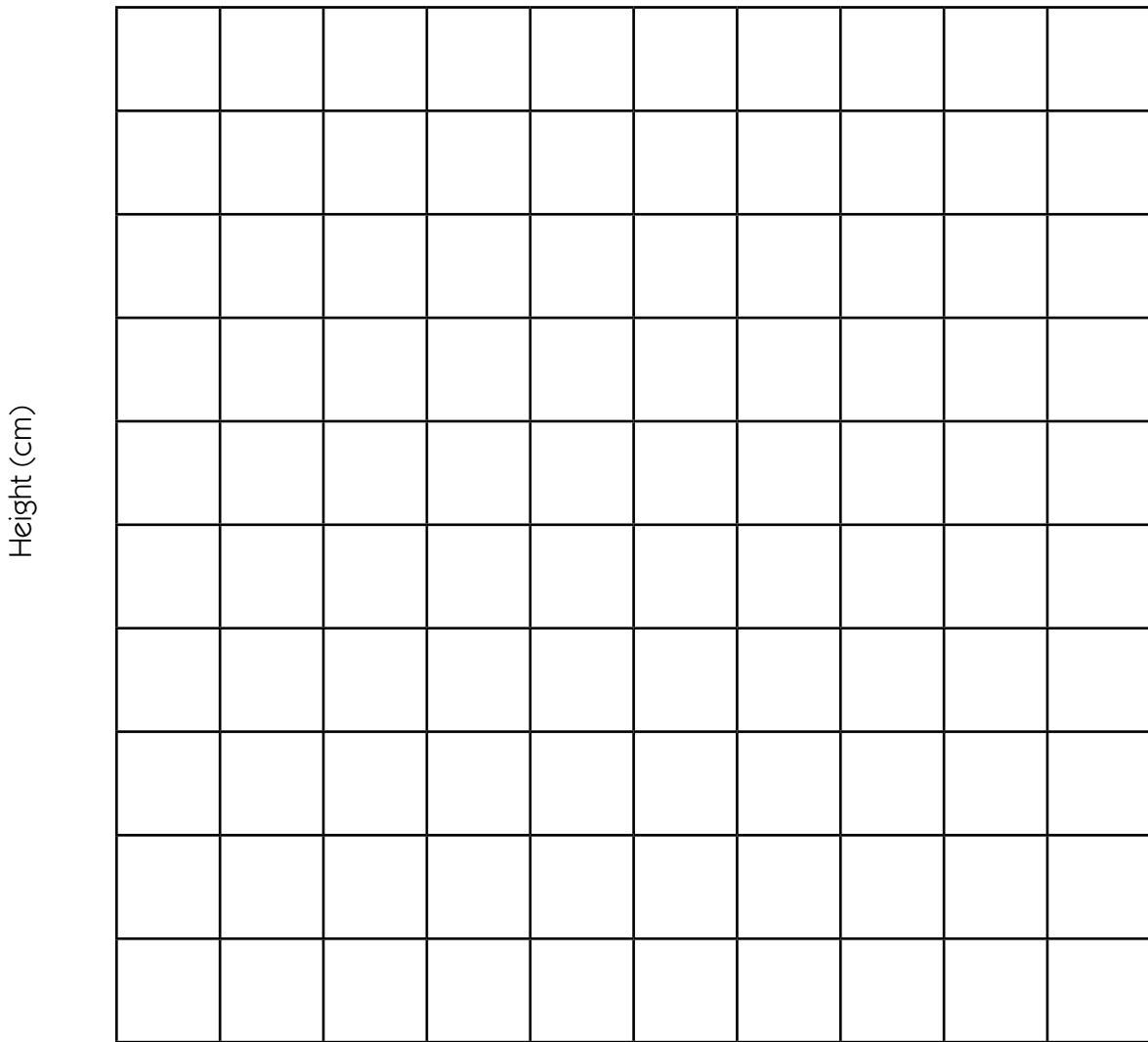
# The Useless Tree

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- Logical Intelligence

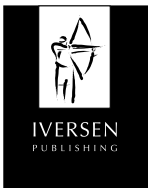
Complete the Science Skills and Knowledge experiment on pages 66 and 67. Look at the results of the experiment. Complete the graph below and plot the height of the plants over 10 days. Use a key to show the 4 plants.

Height of Plants



Height (cm)

Day



# The Useless Tree

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

- Fair Go, Freedom and Responsibility

Think about the character of Regina. Many of the decisions she made had consequences. Make a list of the things she did (actions) and list the consequences of the action.

Action	Consequence
Regina throws a big celebration for herself when she becomes ruler.	She ignores the needs of the useless tree and orders many great things for herself.

