Look at the story and solve the puzzle.

Across
3 Simon’s website is about ____________ animals.
4 The shark was ____________ metres long.
5 Biologists in ____________ put a satellite chip on the shark.
8 Last ____________ Simon’s parents went on holiday.
10 He talks to his teacher on a ____________.
11 Now Simon is following the shark by ____________.

Down
1 Professor Morgan went to Waroonga Point by ____________.
2 Simon is ____________ years old.
6 The shark lives in the ____________ Ocean.
7 The shark was grey with a white ____________.
9 Jane Sinclair is an ____________ on great white sharks.
Find the letters and discover what’s in Simon’s bucket.

The first letter is in __________ and in __________.

The second letter is in __________ and in __________.

The third letter is in __________ and in __________.

The fourth letter is in __________ and in __________.

The fifth letter is in __________ and in __________.

The sixth letter is in __________ and in __________.

The seventh letter is in __________ and in __________.

It’s an ________.
Take the ocean animals quiz!

1. Can fish close their eyes? Yes / No
2. How long are blue whales? 10 / 20 / 30 metres
3. An octopus has three hearts. True / False
4. Do starfish have eyes? Yes / No
5. Dolphins don’t have ears. True / False
6. What colour is octopus blood? Red / Blue / Green
7. A jellyfish’s brain is bigger than a shark’s. True / False
8. Do sharks sleep? Yes / No
9. A blue whale’s heart is bigger than a fridge. True / False
10. Dolphins can swim backwards. True / False
11. How many legs do crabs have? 6 / 8 / 10
12. Can octopuses change colour? Yes / No
Before you read

Say: Let’s talk about Australia! Show the class the cover of the book and explain that it’s about a boy called Simon who lives in Australia. Display a map or globe and ask a volunteer to come and point out Australia. Ask the class questions to elicit what they know about Australia: What’s the capital city? (Canberra); What languages do people speak in Australia? (English is the first language but there are also lots of people who speak Chinese, Italian and Greek); What animals live in Australia? (Kangaroos, Koalas and Duck-billed platypus are all native to Australia. It’s also common to farm sheep and cows); What’s the climate like? (there are different biomes including desert, rainforest and grassland).

Using the worksheets

Worksheet 1

Look at the story and solve the puzzle.

Explain that the crossword is all about the Rock Pool story. Write the clue for 3 across on the board: Simon’s website is about _ _ _ _ _ animals. Ask the children to suggest how to complete the clue (ocean), then tell them to complete the crossword looking back at the story when necessary.

Worksheet 2

Find the letters and discover what’s in Simon’s bucket

Tell the children that Simon’s got an animal in his bucket and that they’re going to do a puzzle to find out what it is. Write the first letter in Simon’s speech bubble: The first letter is in __________ and in __________. Elicit the two missing words (crab and waves) and ask the class to look at the words and say which letter they have in common (a). Then tell them to write the letter a on the first line in Simon’s speech bubble. Ask children to solve the remaining clues to reveal the mystery animal.

Worksheet 3

Take the ocean animals quiz.

Give out the quiz, write the following key vocabulary on the board and check children’s understanding: whale, heart, octopus, blood, brain, backwards. Then instruct them to look at the questions in pairs but mark their answers individually. Explain that the aim of the quiz is to learn new things about ocean animals and they should make a guess when they don’t know an answer. Then go through each question and tell the children the answers. Tell children to count how many answers they had right and see if they had more or less than their partner.

After you read

Write Simon on the board in a circle and draw four arrows coming from the circle. At the end of each arrow, write a title: school, hobbies, family, home. Point to school and elicit information about Simon: He doesn’t go to school, he studies at home and talks to his teacher with a webcam. Then ask the children to look back at the story in pairs and make notes about Simon for the other titles.

While you read

Ask the children to stop reading on pages 10 and 11. Ask them to say how they think Simon is feeling and then ask them to say what they would do if they saw a shark this close. Ask the children if they’ve had any scary experiences like this and invite them to tell the class.
**Extension**

Play a game: divide the class into groups and give each group a sheet of paper. Give the groups a minute to make a list of all the sea animals they can think of in English. Stop the groups after a minute and give them a point for each word on their list. Continue the game with other categories: technology words, farm animals, countries and so on.

Ask the children to choose an animal and do a mini-project on it with a picture and information about its food, body, habitat and size.

**Answers**

**Worksheet 1**

Look at the story and solve the puzzle.

Across
1. ocean
2. six
3. Mexico
4. summer
5. webcam
6. satellite

Down
1. helicopter
2. eleven
3. Pacific
4. stomach
5. expert

**Worksheet 2**

Find the letters and discover what’s in Simon’s bucket.

Mystery word: anemone.

**Worksheet 3**

Take the ocean animals quiz.

1. No, they don’t have eyelids.
2. 30 metres
3. True
4. Yes, they have a small eye at the end of each arm.
5. False, dolphins have 2 very small ears just behind their eyes.
6. Blue
7. False, jellyfish don’t have brains.
8. No, they need to move constantly to breathe.
9. True, their hearts are the size of a small car.
10. True
11. Crabs have 10 legs, 2 of them are claws.
12. Yes, they can change colour in just a few seconds to camouflage themselves.