



# Vega's Adventure in South Africa

Reading comprehension

## Before you start reading the story:

Look at the front cover of the book. What do you think is happening?  
And why are Vega and another girl dancing with chickens in their arms?

### CHAPTER 1 – Going to Devil's Pool

1. Why can't Vega hear her mother?
2. What is Devil's Pool?
3. Why does Lucky want to check that everything is OK?

### CHAPTER 2 – The smoke that thunders

4. What is the 'the smoke that thunders'?
5. What do the crocodiles in the water look like?
6. What story does Lucky tell the children about her missing finger?
7. Which fun fact about Victoria Falls do you find the most interesting?

### CHAPTER 3 – What a mix-up!

8. True or false?
  - a) Vega feels carsick.
  - b) Leo doesn't like mornings
  - c) The train looks old and dusty.
9. Why do you think everyone looks sad?

#### CHAPTER 4 – The very small hat

10. Describe the ticket collector.
11. Why is everyone surprised when the ticket collector picks up a heavy suitcase?
12. How many bedrooms does the flat have?

#### CHAPTER 5 – The disappearing sandwich

13. Yes or no?
  - a) Vega's mum is going to take a holiday in South Africa.
  - b) Vega and Leo have to share a room on the train.
  - c) The children are very excited and cannot sleep.
  - d) The giraffes have sore throats.
  - e) Elephants keep cool by rolling on the ground.
  - f) Springboks look like elephants.
  - g) Springboks like sandwiches.

#### CHAPTER 6 – Jacaranda City

14. What do you know about the capital cities of South Africa? Can you name one of the capital cities?
15. What do jacaranda trees look like?
16. Where are Vega and her family staying in Pretoria?

#### CHAPTER 7 – Purple rain

17. Why do you think this chapter is called 'Purple rain'?
18. Why do the students want the petals to fall on their heads?
19. Why does Vega scream?
20. Would you like to try pizza ice cream? Why/why not?

#### CHAPTER 8 – Under a blanket of stars

21. Why is the house in the middle of nowhere unusual?
22. What does Vega think of the bathroom? And Leo?
23. What do wild dogs look like?
24. What noises does Vega hear as she tries to go to sleep?



## **CHAPTER 9 – On safari**

25. Who is Ping?
26. Why does Lesedi wear the same uniform as her father?
27. Who or what is Stretch?
28. What happens to the hyena in the lion's mouth?
29. Kat says that Monty has done something terrifying. What?

## **CHAPTER 10 – The escaping chickens**

30. Why is Vega surprised to see Lesedi?
31. Why is Lesedi running away with two chickens?

## **CHAPTER 11 – Keep on dancing**

32. How does Ping find the two girls?
33. Why are Mum and Gogo unhappy?
34. How do Vega and Lesedi end up dancing with a chicken under their arms?

## **CHAPTER 12 – Is that a donkey?**

35. Yes or no?
  - a) It is hotter in the south of South Africa than it is in the north.
  - b) Penguins sound like donkeys, according to Vega.
  - c) Penguins only live in very cold areas.

## **CHAPTER 13 – Merry Christmas!**

35. How does Vega spend her Christmas?

### **General questions:**

- Which adventure do you think was the most fun? And why?
- Imagine you are in South Africa. What would you do and why?