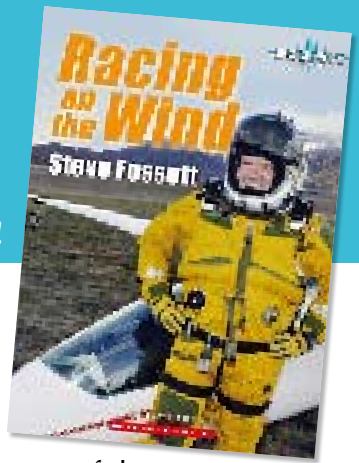


Teacher Notes

Jolt your children into content-area reading success!



Synopsis

Racing on the Wind highlights the record-breaking feats of the adventurer Steve Fossett. It features an interview that runs throughout the book, alongside a recount of Fossett's major attempts – successful and unsuccessful.

Vocabulary Development

Read and discuss the high-powered words on page 4 prior to reading the book.

The high-powered words for this book are:

aviator, forecast, hot-air balloon, jet stream, meteorology, satellite.

Reading Assessment Focus

Deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts:

- make appropriate inferences about Fossett's response to failure.
- Explain and comment on the writer's use of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level:
- comment on the impact of using expository text interspersed with interview extracts.

Before Reading – Get on the Wavelength

- Tell the children to read the title and view the front and inside cover photographs. Invite them to read and discuss the questions on the back cover.

Ask: *Why do people want to set records?*

Can anyone become a record setter?

Encourage the children to support their answers with specific examples.

- Discuss the entries on the Contents page. Invite the children to state the nature of each of the challenges suggested by the headings. Ask the children to search for and discuss the **Shockers**.

SHOCKER

In a dog sled race, the dogs have to respect the human as the "lead dog." Fossett had trouble with one of his dogs, so he got down on all fours. He stared the dog down, then bit its ear! After that, the dog obeyed Fossett.