

The Runaway Iceberg

Guided Reading



The Runaway Iceberg

Read the book 'The Runaway Iceberg' and look at the illustrations.

To see a question about the book, click this button:





What do you think this book is going to be about?



Do you think it is fiction or non-fiction?



Where do you think it is set?

When the ice breaks and leaves Gaspar and Rossi floating alone at sea, they worry that they'll never get home!

A little help from some new friends can get them so far, but can Gaspar find the courage needed to get all the way home?



visit [twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)

We help those who teach.

We provide educators around the world with entire schemes of work, lesson planning and assessments, plus online educational games, innovative augmented reality and lots, lots more.



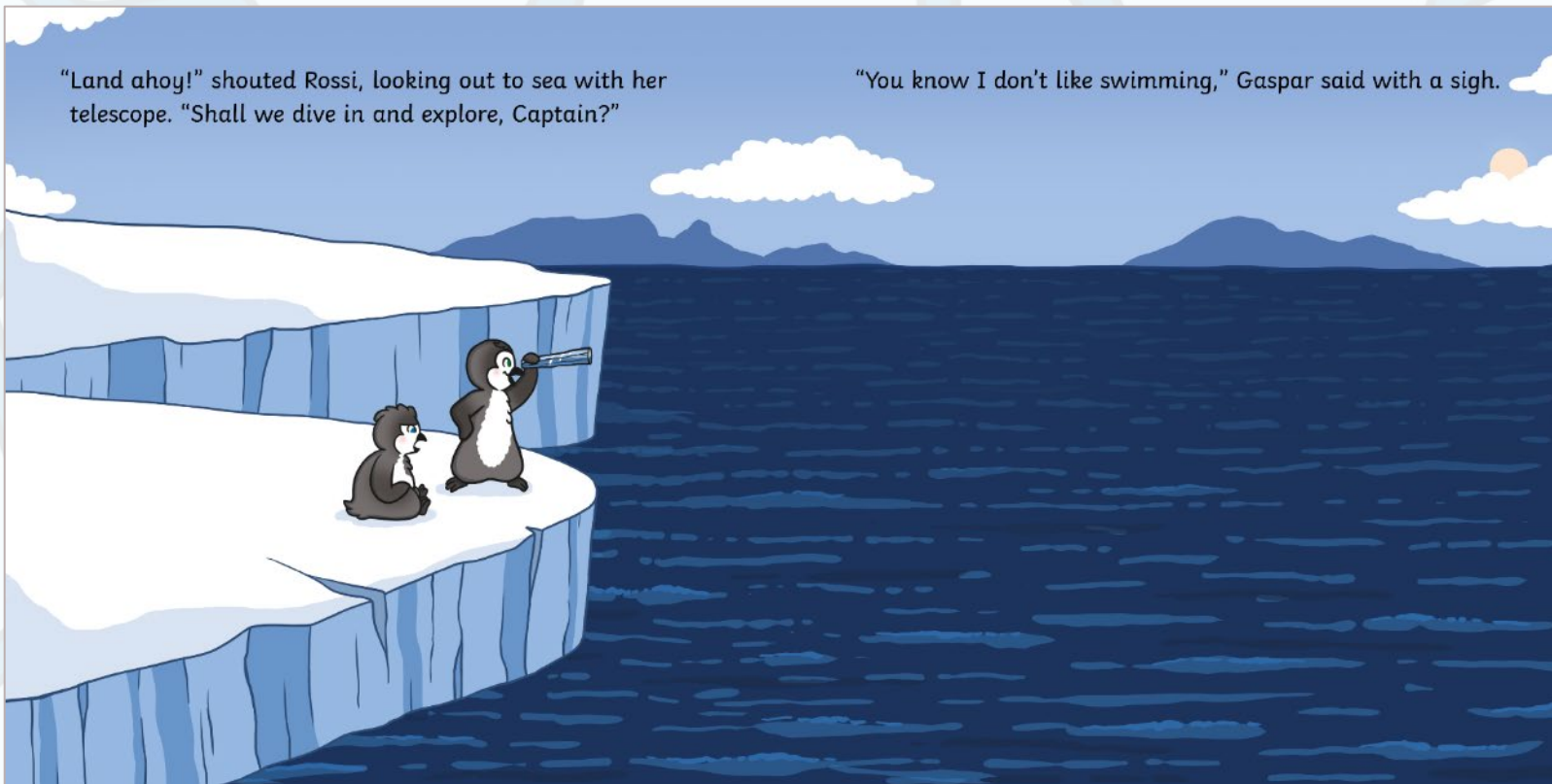
Who do you think could be the 'new friends' that the penguins meet? Who else might live in a place like this?



What do you think the word 'courage' means?

"Land ahoy!" shouted Rossi, looking out to sea with her telescope. "Shall we dive in and explore, Captain?"

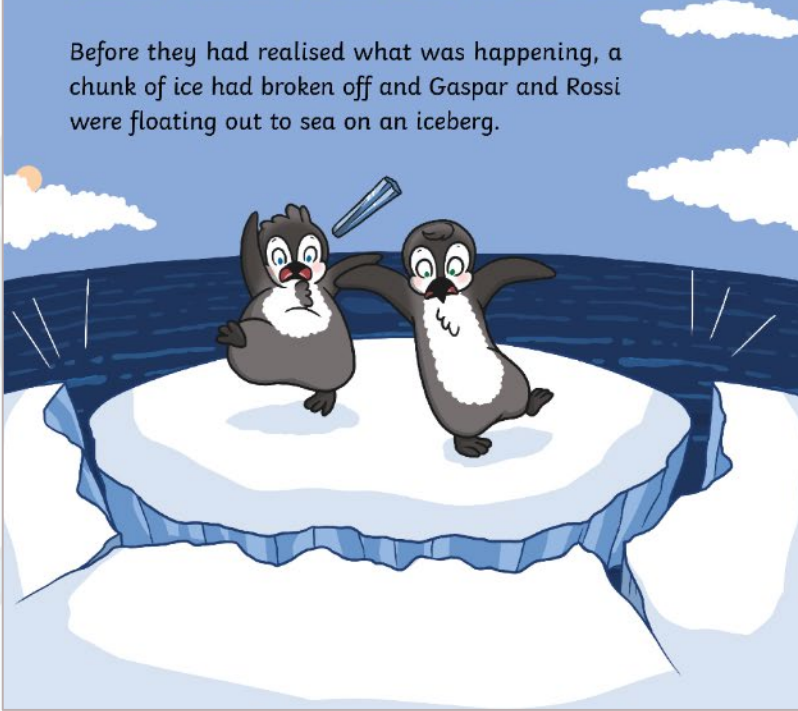
"You know I don't like swimming," Gaspar said with a sigh.



Why doesn't Gaspar dive into the water?

Suddenly, a cracking sound came from below them.

Before they had realised what was happening, a chunk of ice had broken off and Gaspar and Rossi were floating out to sea on an iceberg.



"Quick – swim!" shouted Rossi.

But Gaspar was afraid. "I can't!" he cried, peering into the deep, dark sea below.



Do you think the ice broke quickly or slowly?
How do you know?

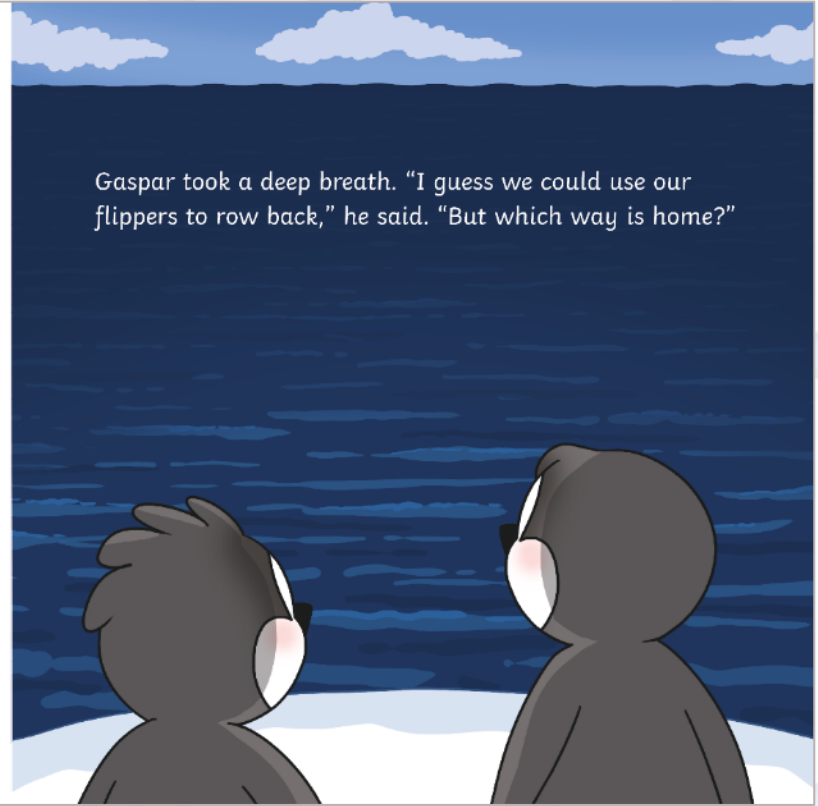
The iceberg floated out farther and farther until they could no longer see land.

“What are we going to do?” asked Gaspar, trembling. “How will we ever get back?”



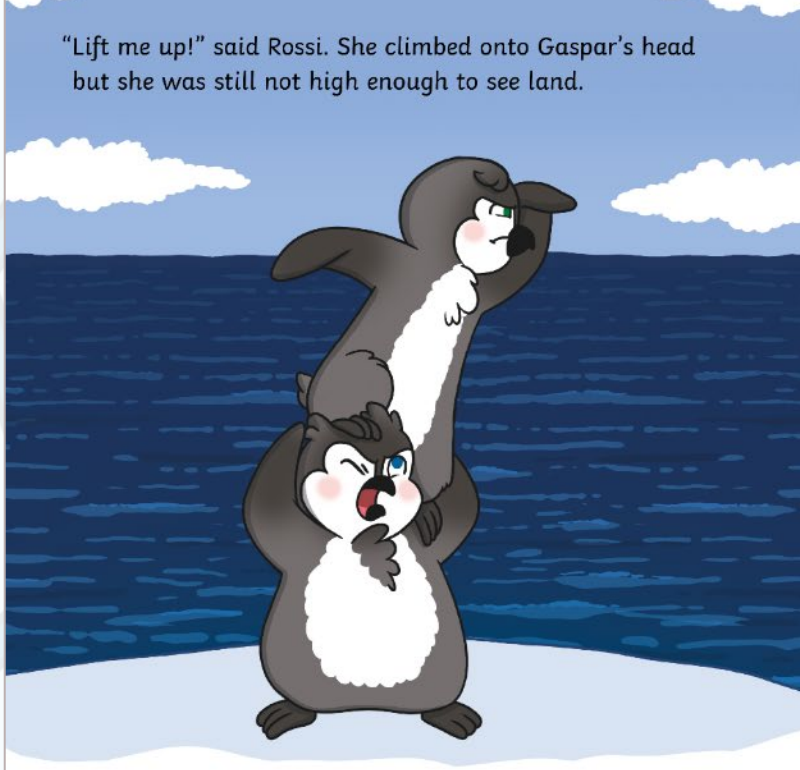
“We’re brave explorers, remember,” said Rossi, holding Gaspar’s flippers. “We will find a way.”

Gaspar took a deep breath. “I guess we could use our flippers to row back,” he said. “But which way is home?”



How do you think Gaspar feels?

"Lift me up!" said Rossi. She climbed onto Gaspar's head but she was still not high enough to see land.



"Try jumping!" she suggested, giving him a little nudge with her foot.



Gaspar jumped...



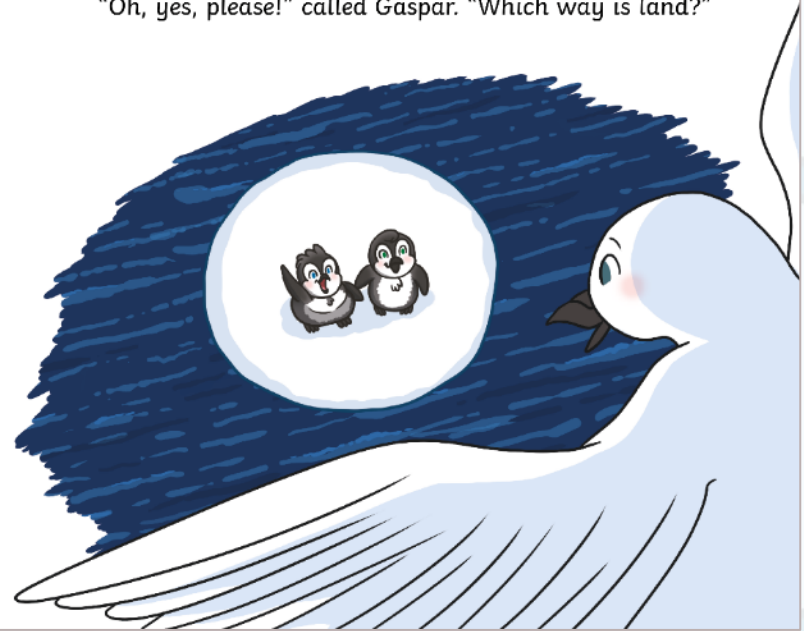
What are the penguins looking for?

....and they both landed on the ice with a thud.



"Need some help finding your way?" asked a snow petrel from above.

"Oh, yes, please!" called Gaspar. "Which way is land?"



Do you think the snow petrel is being kind? Why?

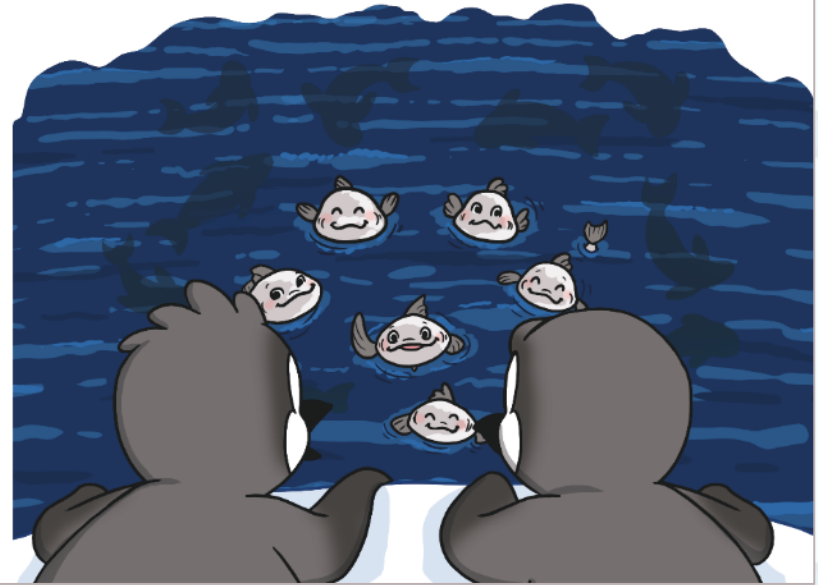
"It's this way," called the snow petrel, flying high above them.



Gaspar and Rossi used their flippers to row as hard as they could but the current kept pushing them the wrong way.

"Need us to give you a push?" asked an Antarctic silverfish from below.

"Oh, yes, please!" called Gaspar.



What is 'the current'? What do you think this means?

The silverfish pushed the iceberg along...



...until suddenly, it became stuck.

"We'll never get through here!" exclaimed Gaspar.



"Need some help breaking through the ice?"
asked a blue whale from the deep.

"Oh, yes, please!" called Gaspar.



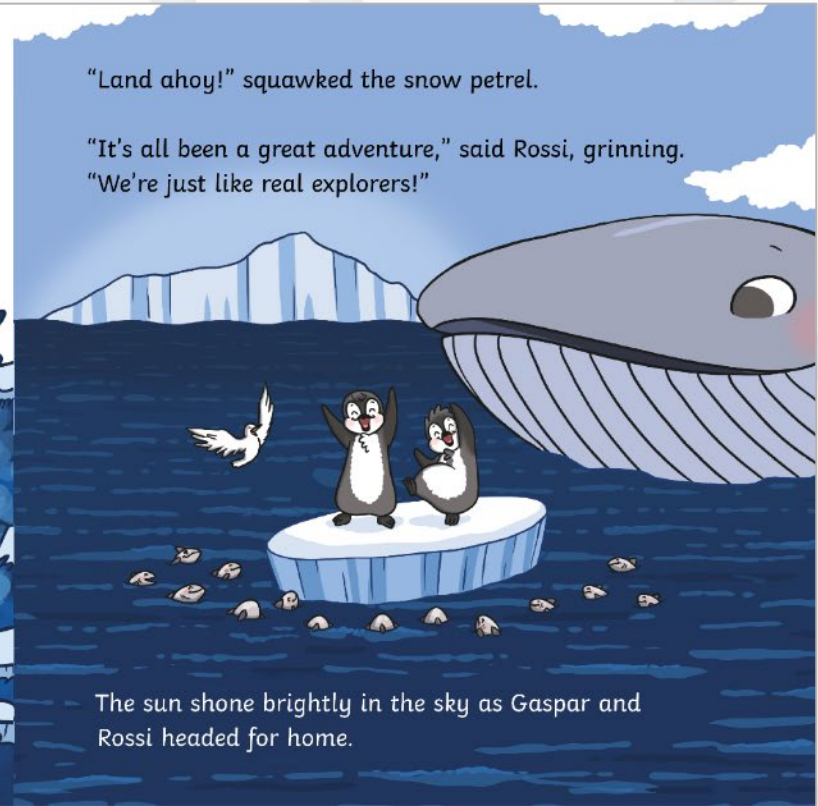
How do you think the blue whale will help the penguins break through the ice?

With a huge flip of its tail, the whale smashed the ice and cleared the way. Gaspar and Rossi bobbed along behind it, glad to finally be on their way back to safety.



"Land ahoy!" squawked the snow petrel.

"It's all been a great adventure," said Rossi, grinning.
"We're just like real explorers!"



The sun shone brightly in the sky as Gaspar and Rossi headed for home.



Why does Rossi say that she and Gaspar are 'just like real explorers'?

"Hey! Stick to your side, Captain!" laughed Rossi as Gaspar's tail feathers tickled her feet.



"I'm right on the edge!" grumbled Gaspar.

The two penguins turned to face each other in shock. The iceberg was getting smaller...



...and smaller!

"It's melting!" shrieked Gaspar. "We need to move faster!"



What will happen if the iceberg melts?

The silverfish swam quicker...



...and the blue whale helped to push...



...but the ice was melting too fast.

"We'll have to swim from here," said Rossi. "You can do this, Gaspar. I know you can. You are the captain, after all!"

The silverfish started to cheer.
"Gaspar! Gaspar! Gaspar!"



Soon, everyone had joined in and Gaspar began to feel braver.



Do you think Rossi is a good friend? Why?

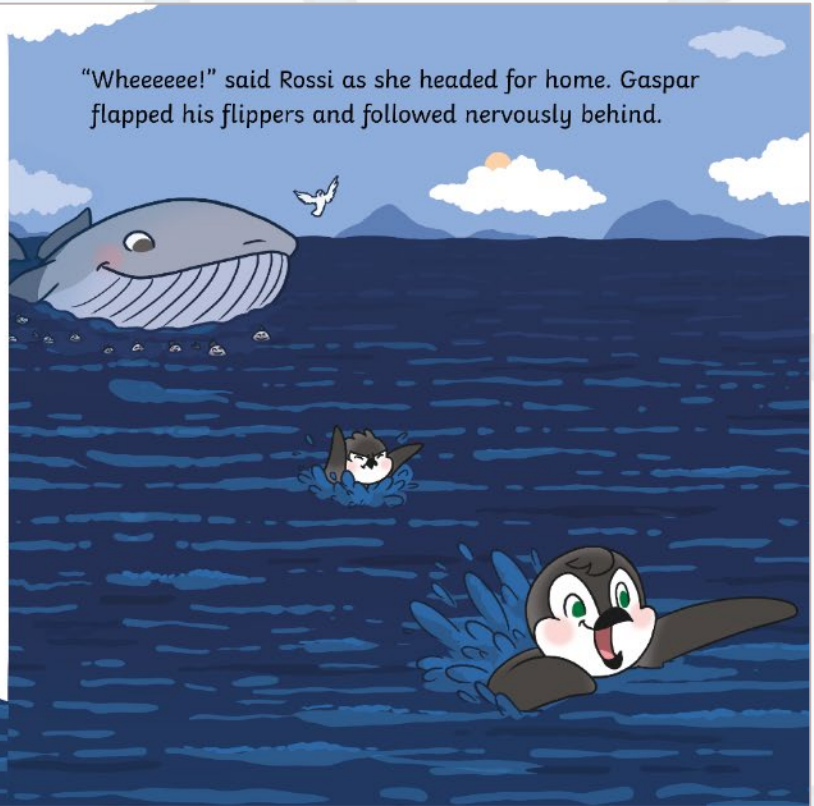
Gaspar gulped. Then, with one big jump, he splashed into the water.

“Brrrr!” he spluttered. “It’s so chilly!”

“Use your flippers!” shouted Rossi as she dived in over Gaspar’s head.



“Wheeeee!” said Rossi as she headed for home. Gaspar flapped his flippers and followed nervously behind.

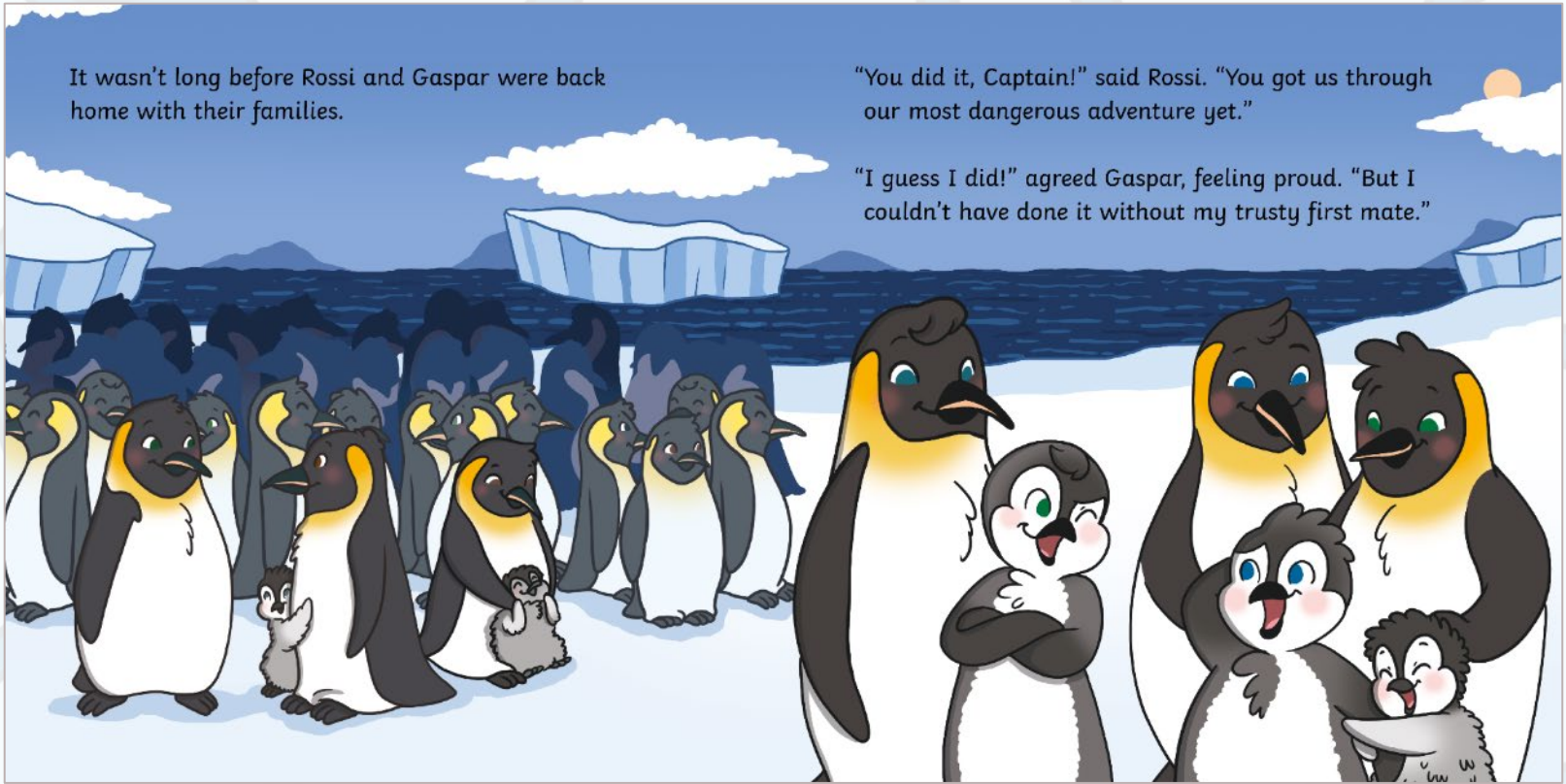


Can you find a word that tells you how Gaspar feels about swimming?

It wasn't long before Rossi and Gaspar were back home with their families.

"You did it, Captain!" said Rossi. "You got us through our most dangerous adventure yet."

"I guess I did!" agreed Gaspar, feeling proud. "But I couldn't have done it without my trusty first mate."



Why does Gaspar feel proud?



Who are the main characters in this story?



the Antarctic silverfish



Gasper and Rossi



What is the problem in the story?



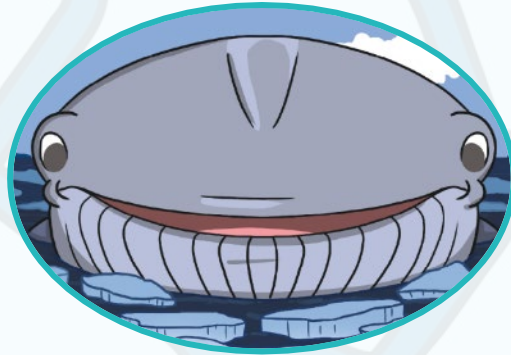
How would you feel if this happened to you?



Who helps the penguins first?



the Antarctic
silverfish



the blue whale



the snow petrel



Do you think there is a message in this story? What do you think it might be?





The Runaway Iceberg



What is your favourite part of the story?

Why?

