

Rising Tide



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Read the opening paragraphs of the story and answer the questions on the following slides.





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The hunt for fossils on the long pebbly shore had gone well, but now as the sun began to dip behind the cliff, Peter felt cold and a long way from home. Even though the rock samples they carried in their bags were small, the total weight made them heavy and this had slowed them down in the last hour.

Peter stopped, pulled his coat tightly around him and gazed out to sea. The wind was beginning to whip up the waves and they crashed even louder onto the rocks in front of him. Spray flew into the air and foamy water washed around the large grey boulders. His sister Bethany had wandered a little way ahead of him. He called the little girl back, encouraged her to button up her raincoat and reminded her to stay close to him all the time.

Away to his right he watched for several moments as the sea rushed in towards the base of the cliff. Each wave seemed to move closer to the rocks and soon, if the tide continued to come in with such speed, they would become cut off from the safety of the sandy beach beyond. Taking his sister by the hand, Peter began to quicken the pace but the rocks and pebbles were slippery with damp seaweed and on several occasions they stumbled and almost fell in their haste.



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- ❖ **Where do you think the story is set? What clues in the text give away the location?**



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❖ **Do you think this is a good setting for a story? Explain your reasons.**



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- ❖ **Make a list of the main dangers that are facing the two children as the story opens.**



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- ❖ **What evidence is there that Peter is becoming concerned about the safety of his sister?**



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- ❖ **How do you think the children would be feeling in a situation like this? How would you feel personally?**



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❖ **Look at the words listed below that appear in the story. What other words might be used to replace them?**

❖ **dip gazed flew base boulders stumbled**



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- ❖ **How do you think the story might develop after this opening scene? List six possible events that might happen if you had to continue the story through to the end.**