

## Lesson Vocabulary

### Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *The Mystery of Saint Matthew Island*. Practice using these words.

### Vocabulary Words

**bleached** whitened by exposure to sunlight or by use of chemicals

**carcasses** bodies of dead animals

**decay** process of rotting

**parasites** living things that live on or in others, from which they get their food, often harming the others in the process

**scrawny** having little flesh; lean; thin; skinny

**starvation** suffering from extreme hunger

**suspicious** beliefs, feelings, thoughts

**tundra** a vast, treeless plain in the arctic regions

## Grammar

### Conjunctions

A **conjunction** is a word that joins words, phrases, or entire sentences.

*And, or, and but* are conjunctions. You can use conjunctions to join subjects, predicates, and objects. *For example: John and Kathleen; rice or noodles.*

Sometimes two sentences about related topics can be combined, using a comma and a conjunction or a subordinating conjunction such as *because, if, then, or when*. *For example: We went to the zoo, because we love tigers.*

### Activity

**Be a Joiner** Make a three-column chart. In the first and third columns, write three simple sentences. In the middle column, write *and, or, and but*. Cut the paper so there is one sentence on each cut piece of paper. Take turns combining sentences using different conjunctions. Do this by moving the sentences in front of and after each conjunction.

## Practice Tested Spelling Words

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