

ICEBERG RESCUE

Amada, Sarah

How can an iceberg help Louise free her ship?
As you read, monitor your understanding and reread to clarify details.

World of Ice It was the winter of 1933. Explorer Louise Arner Boyd and her team had been at sea for six weeks. They were taking pictures making maps of the wild and dangerous coast of northeast Greenland. Their ship, the Veslekari, moved slowly toward Nunatak Glacier. Louise stared up at the mountain of ice. She took many photos and wrote down every detail she saw. All her information we very useful for understanding this mysterious part of the world.

Stuck!

All at once, the ship shook. The shock threw Louise and the others to their knees. The front of the ship made a loud sound. The Verslekari had run aground. The captain yelled, "Reverse the engines!" The ship's crew ran the motors at full speed But the Veslekari did not move.

No Way Out.

Now they were stuck, and it was the middle of winter. Louise knew that northeast Greenland was not a good place to spend a winter. Many explorers had died here, cold and hungry. Louise also knew that there were ships close by. She and her team had to save themselves. The tide was getting lower. As the water level around the boat sank farther and farther, Louis waited and

watched. She was worried. She knew that the ship might tip to one side in the mud. If it tipped over, the ship's crew would not be able to lift it. The Veslekari was very, very heavy. Luckily, the ship stayed upright in mud. But it was still stuck.

Time for Action

The Veslekari was too heavy to float even when the tide came back up again surrounded the ship. Louis and the others had to make it lighter. They took three small boats off the ship they took off almost four tons of oil and gas. Finally, they threw fifteen tons of coal overboard.

Louise's Big Idea

The tide came in and went out again The Veslekari was still stuck.

Then Louise saw a big iceberg floating towards the ship. She had an idea. The ship's crew tied a cable around the iceberg. Then they pulled on the cable. The cable pulled on the iceberg.

Free!

The captain ordered his crew to start the ship's engines. What a noise! The motors The crank squeaked as it pulled on The ship lifted off the mud! Thanks to Louise's good idea, the Veslekari was free! The water around them was filled with ice. After three tries they broke through the ice and moved out to sea. Louise took more photos as they pulled from the mountains of ice. She was relieved to be free, but she knew she would be back to explore this place again.