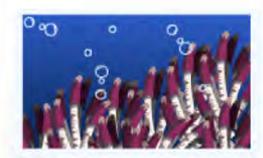
UNIT 08: Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea

#### Deep-Sea Vents

Four years later, Ballard and his old friend Alvin traveled to the coast of Ecuador, in South America. Ballard wanted to look for deep-sea vents, large holes in the earth's undersea crust, on the ocean floor near the Galapagos Islands. Ballard used Alvin's special underwater camera to take pictures of incredible creatures living in the pitch-black depths. Ballard's crew discovered many life forms that grew only at the deep-sea vents. They found giant red tubeworms, which looked like huge dandelions.



The scientists were puzzled. No sunlight reached this far into the ocean's depth; so what energy source could be providing food for these creatures? Ballard's team eventually realized that the deep-sea vents spewed out hot water that was rich in nutrients. The animals fed in this deep-sea vent water.



8

Try making an idea web to organise this information. If you put "giant tubeworms" in the centre, what details about tubeworms would you put in the surrounding circles? Use a sticky note to jot down the ideas.



This word has the vowels "i" and "e" side by side. Do you think these two vowels make up two syllables? How do you think this word is pronounced?

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	n look it up there in this sentence	

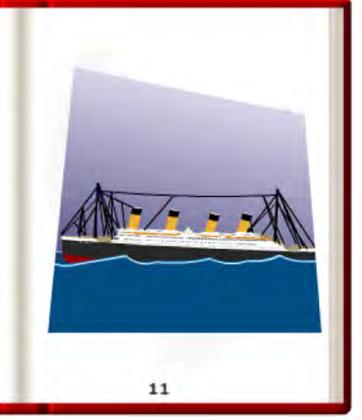
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#### Finding Titanic

Back in 1912, the famous ship Titanic ended its first voyage when it struck an iceberg and sank into the North Atlantic Ocean. More than 70 years later, finding the Titanic would become Robert Ballard's most famous achievement.

In 1985 Ballard searched the ocean floor where Titanic had sunk. For weeks, Ballard and his crew searched with a new robot submersible called Argo. The surface ship pulled Argo along, just above the sea floor.

No humans rode on Argo, but it held a passenger: Jason. Jason was a smaller robot that the crew in the surface ship controlled by remote. Robert Ballard had developed all of this robot technology himself.



10

he is also	narine geo	ologist. Wh	at does th	is sentenc	e tell you
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UNIT 08: Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea

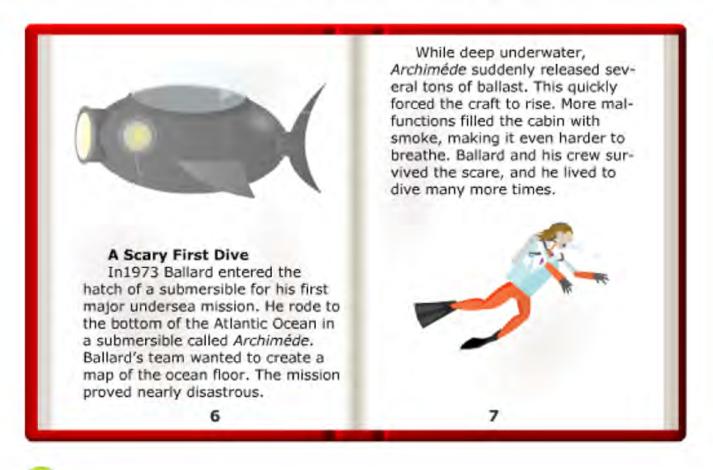
After weeks of searching the area, scientists watched something amazing appear on their video screen. It was one of the large metal boilers that ran Titanic's engines. As Argo continued sweeping, they found more Titanic wreckage across a mile of ocean floor. Before Ballard could explore any further, the weather turned bad. He eventually called off the whole Ballard returned a year later mission. and brought Alvin. Ballard dove to the site in Alvin and sent Jason inside the sunken ship. Ballard saw furniture, chandeliers, and china plates. They were amazingly preserved. Later Ballard recalled, "The Titanic's terrifying tragedy began to sink in." He realized he was looking at the graveyard of more than 1,500 people. 12

UNIT 08: Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea

# Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea Who would have guessed that one of the greatest underwater explorers of this age could have grown up in the prairie state of Kansas? But that's exactly where the Ballard family lived in 1942, when Robert was born. Then his family moved to San Diego, California, a city on the Pacific Ocean. There, Robert Ballard's interest in the sea really sparked. He once said, "The ocean was my friend-my best friend. And I wanted to be the first kid to put footprints on the sand after each tide." 2

942, wh	en Robert	Ballard	was born	. What d	o you think	?

# UNIT 08: Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea



correct meaning in this sentence?
uddenly rose when it lost its ballast, what do you What other kind of vehicles do you think might
7

UNIT 08: Robert Ballard, Modern Sea Explorer The Lure of the Sea

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Imagine an idea web to organize this information. The word "Alvin" could be in the center, and the words "submersible" and "deepest ocean" could be in connecting circles. What other information could you add to this idea web?

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