

Climbing Blind

Erik Weißenmayer could not see. He was blind. Erik said, "I want to climb the highest mountain. The tallest mountain in the world is Mount Everest. I will climb Mount Everest."

People said, "How can you climb the highest mountain in the world? You can't see!" People said, "It is too hard and too high. It's not safe. You will get lost. You will fall and hurt yourself. It is impossible. It can't be done."

What did Erik say? Erik said, "I will climb the tallest mountain in the world."

Erik climbed it, and he didn't get lost. How did Erik find his way? He used his ears! Erik used his ears to listen for bells. The bells were tied to other climbers' poles. The bells were tied to the sleeves of other climbers' coats. The bells helped Erik reach the top of Mount Everest on May 25, 2001.

Find the Answers

1. The climbers wore bells so Erik could
 - a. get lost.
 - b. see them.
 - c. hear them.
 - d. tie his sleeves.
2. What day did Erik reach the top?
 - a. May 25, 2001
 - b. May 25, 2010
 - c. March 25, 2001
 - d. March 25, 2010
3. Most likely, Erik would *not* have climbed Mount Everest if
 - a. it was icy.
 - b. he could see.
 - c. people said, "Yes."
 - d. he was the only climber.

Ride on a Whale Shark

Eugenie Clark was deep under the water. Clark was a scientist who studied fish. Clark was studying a whale shark. Whale sharks are not sharks, but they are the biggest fish in the world.

The whale shark Clark was looking at was over forty feet long. Clark was taking pictures. Then she did something. Clark grabbed the whale shark's fin. She went for a ride!

The whale shark took Clark farther and farther away from her boat. Still, Clark didn't want to let go. Then she thought, "Why am I still holding on to the shark, getting farther away from the boat?" Clark finally let go.

Find the Answers

1. The whole time Clark was moving farther from the boat she was
 - a. taking pictures.
 - b. deep under the water.
 - c. swimming next to the whale shark.
 - d. thinking about how she would get back.
2. Most likely, Clark didn't want to let go because she was
 - a. feeling sick.
 - b. afraid to let go.
 - c. having a fun time.
 - d. too tired to swim.
3. What did Clark grab onto for her ride?
 - a. the whale shark's fin
 - b. the whale shark's back
 - c. the whale shark's tail
 - d. the whale shark's nose