

CALUM SAILS AWAY



Written and illustrated by
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Redhouse Reading Set, Calum Sails Away

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Yayın Yönetmeni: S. Baha Sönmez
Editör: Burcu Ünsal
Kapak ve İç Tasarım: Hüseyin Vatan

Birinci Baskı: Nisan 2016

ISBN: 978-605-9781-21-3

Telif yasası gereği bu kitabın tüm yayın hakları SEV Yayıncılık Eğitim ve Ticaret A.Ş.'ye aittir. Tanıtım yazıları dışında, yayıncının yazılı izni olmaksızın hiçbir biçimde kullanılamaz ve çoğaltılamaz.



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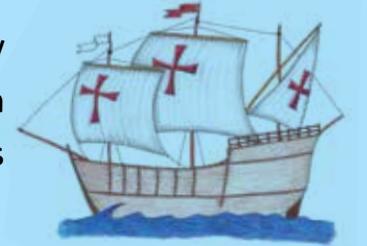
Kütüphane Bilgi Kartı (CIP):
Sweeney, Sarah
Redhouse Reading Set, Calum Sails Away
1. Çocuk Edebiyatı 2. Yabancı Dil Eğitimi 3. İngilizce
İstanbul, SEV Yayıncılık, 2016, 60 Sayfa
ISBN: 978-605-9781-21-3

Baskı: A4 Ofset Matbaacılık San. ve Ticaret Ltd. Şti.
Yeşilce Mah., Donanma Sok., No. 16 Oto Sanayi Sitesi, 34418,
Kâğıthane, İstanbul
Tel.: (0212) 281 64 48 • Sertifika No. 12168

BEFORE YOU READ

1. Do you know any great explorers from history? If you were an explorer, where would you like to travel and explore?

2. What do you know about the exploration of America? Who was the first to explore the continent?



DON'T FORGET: There is a glossary on the last pages of this book where you can look up the meanings of the words you don't know.

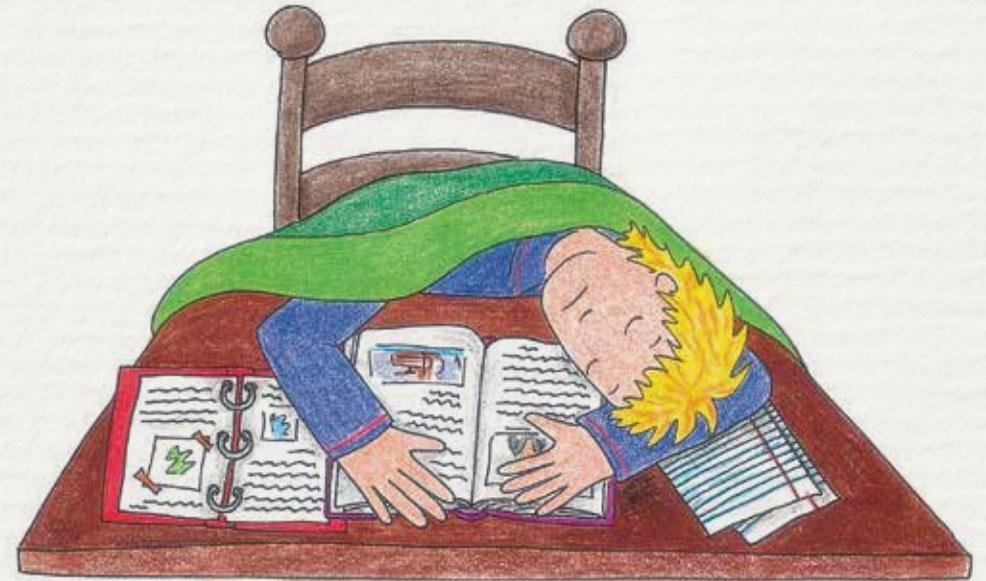
CHAPTER 1

School was getting harder. Calum seemed to have homework every night. He was always tired in the evenings and was beginning to wish he didn't have any distractions.

When he was a little boy, his parents had bought him his very own bed. At the time he didn't realize that it was a magic bed and that almost every night, the bed would take him on adventures beyond his wildest dreams. When he was younger, he looked forward to these adventures. Now he was older and he was usually tired after a long day at school. The magic bed was beginning to be exhausting!

After school, he walked home with his little brother Liam. They didn't play together that much anymore. Calum thought he was too old to play childish games with his little brother and he was always too busy anyways.

He usually rushed through dinner nowadays, so he could get to work on his homework. He always had to study for tests or write a book report. This week he also had to do a research project about Christopher Columbus. He wasn't sure when he would find the time to research the famous



explorer. He already knew a little about him but not that much. He hoped his parents wouldn't need the computer over the weekend, so he could hit the Internet and see what he could learn.

This week, Calum was so busy that he didn't want to have any adventures in his magic bed. Every night, he wrapped himself up in his blanket and sat at his desk. He put his head down on



the desk when he had studied enough and slept there.

He didn't like to sleep at his desk because he always woke up with a sore neck. But he told himself he had to do it or else he wouldn't get any sleep if the bed dragged him into an adventure. At least this way he would be a little rested for school every morning. On Friday night, Calum thought he deserved a good night's sleep in his bed. He thought maybe the bed might not take him on an adventure that night because it wasn't always magic. Sometimes it was just a bed.

He was so tired. He had read three chapters from his history book, but still had not started working on his Columbus project. He just didn't know what to write. He decided he would start working on the project in the morning.

With big circles under his eyes, Calum closed his book and got up from the desk. He turned off the light and walked to his bed in the darkness.

He could hear his cat, Daisy, purring on his bed as usual. He lifted the blanket, crawled under it, and closed his eyes.

