

Beth – Story of a Child Convict

Answers

Text to world statement – This happened in real life when the First Fleet sailed from England to Australia.

1. Molly was on board the Lady Penrhyn because her mother was a convict who had been sent to Australia.
2. It took 3 months to get from England to Australia.
3. I know that the work that Beth and Molly had to do was hard because Beth's hands were cut and bleeding from digging rocks out of the ground and Molly had splinters from collecting wood for fires.
4. The natives show Beth, Molly and Mr Brady that they are friendly by waving and exchanging berries, fish and a war club for a looking-glass.
5. The food had to be rationed because there wasn't enough to feed everyone. Crops wouldn't grow in the sandy soil and most of the animals brought from England died or wandered off into the bush.
6. The ragdoll in the story symbolises safety. I know this because the ragdoll appears each time when a character in the story needs comforting.
7. Beth is based on Elizabeth Hayward, the youngest female convict on the First Fleet.