

## Unit: 3.7 – Simulations

Key Learning

To consider what simulations are.  
To explore a simulation.  
To analyse and evaluate a simulation.

Key ResourcesKey Vocabulary

**Simulation** – A computer simulation is a program that models a real-life situation. They let you try things out that would be too difficult or dangerous to do in real life.

Key Images

2Simulate Main screen.



Locked Out: A lively dog causes problems for Mariza, her baby brother Sam and her mum.



The Dark Side of Elpmis: Trainee astronauts get ready for a mission to the planet Elpmis.

Key Questions

What is a computer simulation?

A program that models a real-life situation. They let you try things out that would be too difficult or dangerous to do in real life.

What kind of simulations are there?

Some simulations represent dangerous situations for training such as flying in space, carrying out medical operations or piloting an aeroplane. Others simulate activities for fun, such as racing simulations.

Are there any problems with simulations?

Simulations are often too simple; and unexpected problems can still occur in real life that are difficult to simulate. Simulations can also be very expensive.