

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Grades 7-8

Written by Michelle Lantaigne-Richard
Illustrated by Ric Ward

ISBN 1-55035-553-8

Copyright 1999

Revised February 2006

All Rights Reserved * Printed in Canada

Permission to Reproduce

Permission is granted to the individual teacher who purchases one copy of this book to reproduce the student activity material for use in his/her classroom only. Reproduction of these materials for an entire school or for a school system, or for other colleagues or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited. No part of this publication may be transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher. "We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP) for this project."

Published in the United States by:
On the Mark Press
3909 Witmer Road PMB 175
Niagara Falls, New York 14305
www.onthemarkpress.com

Published in Canada by:
S&S Learning Materials
15 Dairy Avenue
Napanea, Ontario K7R 1M4
www.sslearning.com



Island of the Blue Dolphins

by Scott O'Dell

Table of Contents

Teacher Information 4

Response Journals.....13

Pre-Reading Activities.....14

Comprehension Questions 20

Vocabulary31

Post-Reading Activities37

Figurative Language

Voice

Characterization

Developing Characterization

Exploring Writing Techniques

Looking for Grammar

Fact Finder

Symbols

Identifying Precious Poetry

Creating Precious Poetry

Ready, Set Action

Ready, Set, Action II

Advertising the movie, “The Island of the Blue Dolphins”

Charitable Causes

Crossword Puzzle

Character Collage/Fabricating the Prologue and Epilogue

Sound Experiences

Karana’s Creations/Karana’s Diary Entries

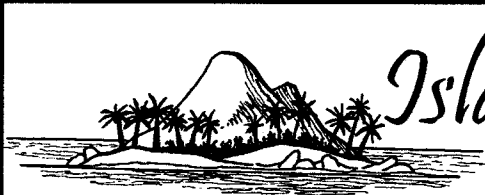
Drama/Wildlife

Psychological Assessment

Ethnological Studies

Island Creations

Answer Key 60



Island of the Blue Dolphins

by Scott O'Dell

Ideas for Response Journals

Character:

1. Name the characters in the chapter(s).
2. Identify what you liked or disliked about the character(s). Explain.
3. Describe the physical and emotional attributes of the character.
4. How did the character(s) interact with one another? Describe any interpersonal conflict.
5. List questions you would like to pose to the characters(s).
6. Can you empathize with the character(s) in any of the situations from this chapter(s)? Explain.
7. Explain how the character is changing.
8. Is the character believable? Why or why not?

Settings:

1. Describe the setting (time and place) in this chapter(s).
2. How is the setting important to this chapter(s).
3. Draw a diagram to explain a particular setting from this chapter(s).

Conflict, Theme and Mood:

1. What did the author want you to feel or understand during this chapter(s)?
2. What is the theme of this chapter(s)?
3. Describe the conflict experienced in this chapter(s).
4. Explain the general mood of the chapter(s).
5. How do you feel about this chapter(s)?
6. What is the climax of this chapter(s)?

Writing Style:

1. Create a name for the chapter(s) and explain why you selected it.
2. Make a prediction about upcoming events.
3. Did the author use effective verbs and adjectives in this chapter(s)? Identify some examples.
4. Can you identify figurative language used in the chapter such as, similes?



Response Journal

Name: _____

Chapter(s): _____

Use point form to complete the boxes below. You may want to draw a picture to support your ideas!

Character(s): Identify who was in the chapter, what they looked like, and how they acted/felt.

Setting: When and where does this portion of the story take place?

Plot: What happened? Name the problem.

Theme? Mood: How does this chapter(s) make you feel? Explain. Suggest a chapter title. Predict what will happen next.



Pre-Reading Activities

1. Exploring Themes

Many themes are explored in the novel *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. These themes are very rich and would make excellent essay papers or discussion topics for small groups or the whole class.

The Essay

Respond to one of these themes in a "Five Paragraph Essay". Begin your essay with a thesis statement. Next, write three complete paragraphs to support your thesis. Your closing paragraph should reiterate your thesis.

a) Gender Stereotypes:

When it comes to work there is definite work that men should do and women should not do.

b) Loneliness versus being alone:

There is a difference between spending time alone and feeling lonely. Some people do not like to be alone while others really enjoy it. Why are some people lonely when they are alone and others are not?

c) Trust Relationships:

Some people have a "blind faith" in others, especially, those that are close. Explain what you believe this to mean. Can this be a dangerous quality to possess? Why or why not?

d) Hunting:

There is not an instance when hunting animals is considered appropriate.

e) Pets:

There is an old adage that says, "a dog is a person's best friend". Explain the significance of pets in people's lives.

f) Environmental Issues:

Native peoples have long ago recognized the importance of living in harmony with nature. In your opinion have modern day people misused the environment? Explain.

g) Cultural Diversity:

Define culture and explain how your cultural baggage has shaped you.



2. Create a Story

Without reading the first chapter of *Island of the Blue Dolphins* use the following list of words, phrases and character's names to create your version. Remember to use the words and phrases exactly as you see them.

Characters:

- a) Karana a twelve year old female.
- b) Ramo a six year old male and brother of Karana.
- c) Chief Chowig-Karana's father.
- d) Captain Orlov a Russian sailor.

Setting:

Island of the Blue Dolphins near village of Ghalas-at
Time Period early 1800s.

Create a plot based on these actual key words and phrases from the chapter:

- I wanted him to help me gather roots
- watching the ship coming, which he did not know was a ship
- "Have you ever seen a red whale?"
- word of its coming had already reached the village of Ghalas-at
- faces were broad and shining dark hair fell over their eyes
- words were strange
- he thrust his spear into the sand
- "we come to hunt..."
- "the parts must be equal"
- "it is better to agree now"
- he spoke softly as he did when he was angry
- he looked at my father and shrugged his shoulders