

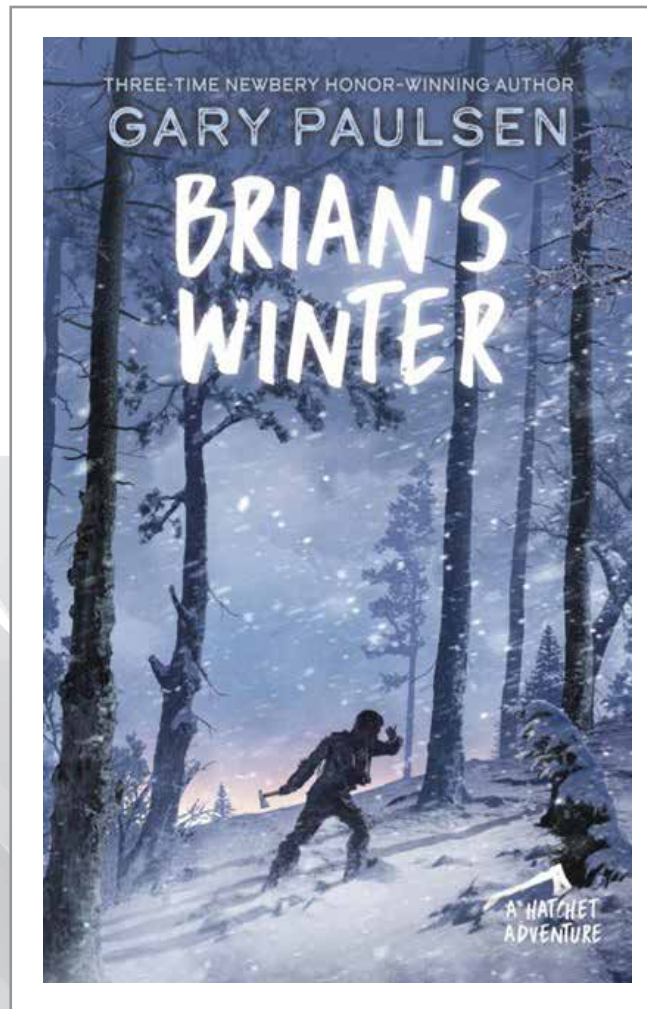


**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 6-8**

# Brian's Winter

Gary Paulsen



**READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT**

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Gary Paulsen

## STUDENT PACKET

**NOTE:**

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Rate each of the following statements before you read the novel and discuss your ratings with a partner. After you have completed the novel, rate and discuss the statements again.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
strongly agree strongly disagree

	Before	After
1. Surviving winter alone would be impossible for any young person.	_____	_____
2. Killing animals for food is cruel.	_____	_____
3. Loneliness is the worst feeling.	_____	_____
4. Surviving a summer alone would be simple.	_____	_____
5. It's OK to eat unfamiliar berries when you're hungry.	_____	_____
6. Without prior knowledge of survival skills, a person would not survive alone in the wilderness.	_____	_____
7. If you leave a wild animal alone, it will leave you alone.	_____	_____
8. You can't always trust what you hear.	_____	_____
9. Making bows and arrows for hunting would be simple.	_____	_____
10. Winter is a beautiful season.	_____	_____
11. Living without adult supervision in the wilderness would mean freedom and fun.	_____	_____
12. Making your own clothes for winter would be impossible.	_____	_____
13. People who have sour looks on their faces are hateful.	_____	_____
14. Skunks can be good pets.	_____	_____
15. You can learn to be a part of your environment.	_____	_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

14. What problem does new snow bring for Brian?
15. What basic tools does Brian use to fashion snowshoes?
16. What do snowshoes look like in Brian's mind?
17. How do the snowshoes change Brian's circumstances?

### **Chapter 15–Epilogue**

1. What is amazing to Brian about the temperature outside?
2. What does Brian learn about tracking animals in the snow?
3. How are the deer and moose kills different in Brian's mind?
4. How does Brian begin cleaning the deer?
5. How does Brian get the deer back to camp?
6. What decision does Brian make after the deer kill?
7. Why does Brian follow the moose?
8. What does Brian see as he studies the moose?
9. What is so unnerving about the moose kill?
10. How does Brian compare killing with arrows to the way the wolves kill?
11. Why does Brian think the wolves will never attack him?
12. What sound does Brian think he hears?
13. How long does Brian wait before trying to trace the sound?
14. What does Brian think about making when he is walking on the ice-covered snow?
15. What does Brian see across the lake?
16. What had Brian discovered about straight lines in nature?
17. What does Brian see beside the line?
18. Why isn't Brian excited as he walks to follow the line?
19. What does Brian smell just before dark?
20. How does Brian act in his first encounter with people?
21. Who are the people Brian meets?
22. How does the family survive the harsh winters?
23. Why does Brian finally decide to climb onto the plane?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

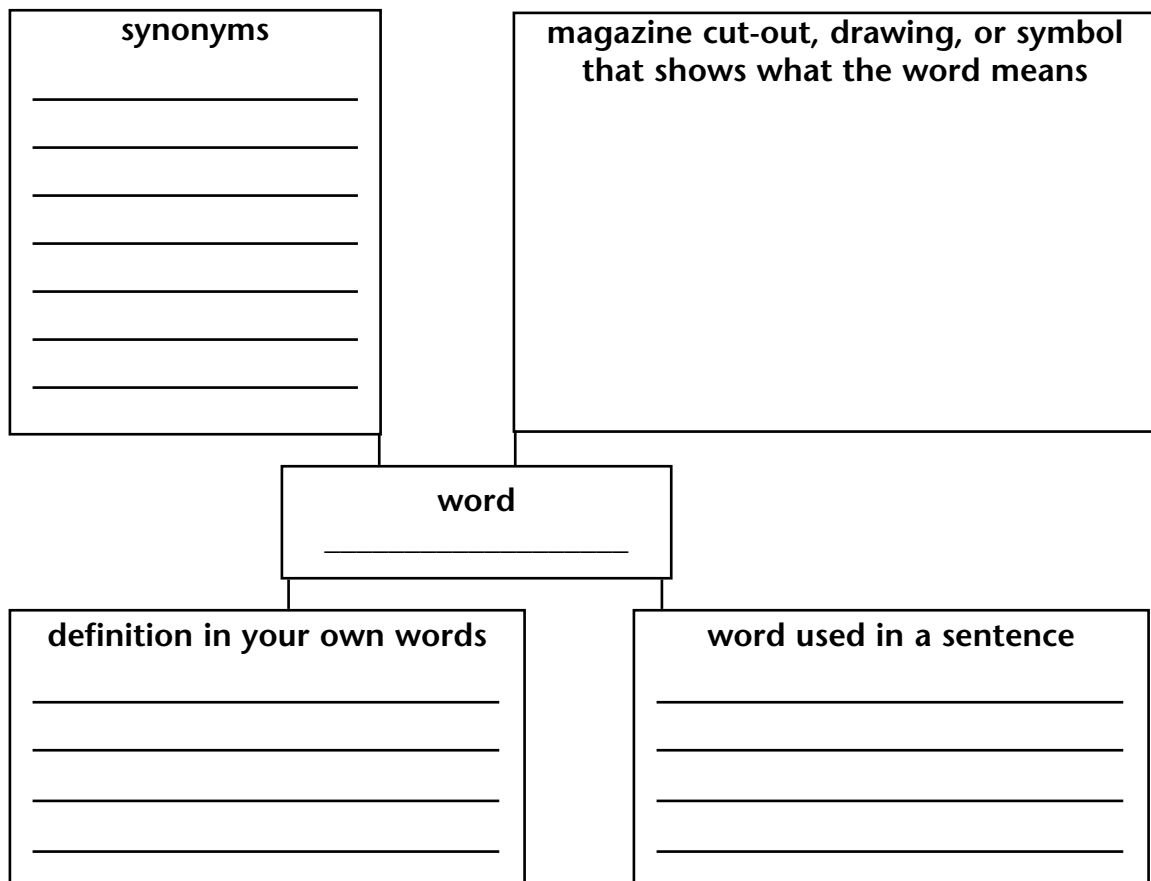
swiveled (114)  
intact (116)  
intention (120)  
warp (126)  
bushplane (131)

depression (114)  
literally (119)  
gorging (122)  
toboggan (128)  
staples (131)

paces (114)  
coursed (119)  
neglected (124)  
indication (128)  
scrupulously (131)

gutted (116)  
gradual (119)  
plausible (125)  
hut (130)  
hesitated (133)

**Directions:** Choose 15 words from the vocabulary list. On a separate sheet of paper, make a word map (like the one below) for each word.



### Thinking Critically About Survival

**Directions:** Using the chart below, think about survival. Think about each question, then answer the questions in the boxes provided. Be prepared to share your responses with the class.

