Teacher Guide

Grades 7–8

The Call of the Wild

Jack London



NEW WAYS TO TEACH READING, WRITING, & CRITICAL THINKING



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THE CALL OF THE WILD

by Jack London

Teacher Guide

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Note

The text used to prepare this guide was the Puffin Classics softcover, published by The Penguin Group, 1982. Page references may vary, if other editions are used.

Please note: Please assess the appropriateness of this book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with your class.

ISBN978-1-60878-423-3

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Publisher Information For a complete catalog, contact—

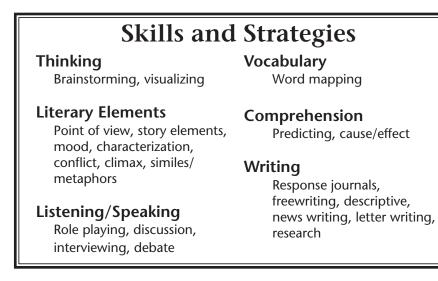
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Writing Idea

Read about Darwin's theory of evolution. Explain what he means by "survival of the fittest" and explain how that principle applies to Buck's behavior in this chapter.

Literary Analysis: Mood

Mood is the strongest feeling or emotion in a piece of vertice. The terms used to describe the mood of a novel are generally the same words we use to a cribe a person's mood: angry, sad, fearful, etc. The mood often changes in anti-encodents of a story. Have students reread the passage describing Curly's death ($a_1 > 2^4$ are examine how the mood in that passage differs from the mood in the passage less ping spitz's death. (The mood of the first passage is one of horror and angle the model of the second is one of pride and jubilation—"He deserved it.")

Chapter 4

Vi ak 'ar)bdurate 54 .eredity 59 convulsive 64

solidari, 56 p. cent 5.

celerity 56 lugubriously 52 ut 'ly 56 f Junc ered 63

Discussi Qu tic

- 1. How 'ir' rançois react when he formet it Spitz was dead? Why? He was impressed and relieved; now he terbion was over, the logs we 'o make better time.)
- 2. With Spitz down, 'no 'as nosen as lead dog? (Buck) with Buck make it clear that he wanted to toposition, Buck drove Sol-leks out of the indiposition, refused to be caught and homes in any position exception of ad.
- 3. Why did the men give in to him? (Aft an insur, usey wanted to get going) is a they sorry later? (No, he proved to be an axe. Venuead dog.)
- 4. How did François and P $(t \in e^{1})$ ck's life? Where? (On all $A \in S_{n-1}$, they received orders to go els v^{p}) bo you think he missed and the term term term rd?
- 5. What did Buck dream of the campfire on the ay o Durvsc? Judge Miller's place, the man in the red sweater, the death of Curly, no the age to eat, a primitive man) Why do you suppose he wasn't homesick? (He has here reted in large part to his primitive self and is no longer the log e versile California.)
- 6. How was the cook like the principle main puck's primordial memories? Why do you suppose Jack London desc. At the in similar terms? (See diagram on page 17.)

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Cook	Dream-Man
"half-breed"	hairy, short
by the fire	by the fire
rounded, muscular	stringy muscles
longer-legged	ong-armed

- 7. Why did the driver put Dave the 'name's, knowing that it would kill him? (Dave was miserable when taken out fith havess, refused to run behind the sled, bit through Sol-leks traces, making clearly estill wanted to lead.) Die the 'river have sympathy for the dog? (main)
- 8. Why do you stop se ack London refers to the 'Se ch alf-breed" without giving him a nam ? what stude does this suggest (the is mphasizing the parallel between this to a state of the anonymous primitive of the state of the st
 - . Vh did the "Scotch half-bree" 's ____ ave? (He was too sick to pull, and miserable when left behind.) What we heal ____atives? How do you thick he felt about doing it? Why did he leave 'ave in the camp, then walk back to short num (probably so that the other of ___s version of witness the killing) How cell the other dogs feel? (They knew what ha '____ ence and probably realized coefficient term.)
- 10. If w is chaiff and in this chapter that is visit if first three? (In the first three chapter is visit in the surface of the state o
- 11. **Prediction:** What will happen the need gs once they delive the low of mult to Skaguay?

Writing Idea

Compose one of the time that Buck and the others and deavering to the gold minus for their families.

Literary Analysis: Setting

The setting of a story is the *tin* a. *n* the events. *In what waar* west is story take place? (1897; see page 11.) *W*₁ = α. Buck live with Judge Mil waar. Clara, California) What major U.S. cities did Buck ass through on his way to be know ke? (San Francisco and Seattle) *In what country* is Buck now? (Canada)