

Student Packet

Grades 5–6

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Scott O'Dell

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ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS

by
Scott O'Dell

Student Packet

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Contains masters for:	2	Prereading Activities
	8	Vocabulary Activities
	1	Study Guide
	1	Geography Activity
	3	Critical Thinking Activities
	2	Literary Analysis Activities
	1	Research Project
	4	Writing Activities
	1	Review Crossword
	2	Comprehension Quizzes
	2	Unit Exams

Note

The text used to prepare this guide was the Laurel Leaf Historical Fiction softcover published by Dell Publishing, ©1960 by Scott O'Dell.

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.

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4. About how old is Karana when the Aleuts come again? What does she do when she sees them arrive?
5. Why is Karana more afraid of the girl than of the men?
6. How does the Aleut girl treat Karana? How does Karana feel toward her, at first?
7. What present does the girl leave for Karana?
8. What does Karana make for Tutok?
9. How do Karana and Tutok spend their time together?
10. How does Karana feel when the Aleuts finally leave?
11. Who is Mon-a-nee?
12. Why does Karana look for stones the same color as the stones in the necklace Tutok gave her?

Chapters 24-29:

1. Karana imagines her sister smiling at Karana's children "...so different from the ones I always wished to have." What "children" does Karana imagine?
2. Why does Karana call Mon-a-nee (female), a "mother"?
3. Karana stops killing more animals. Which ones? Why?
4. How does Karana keep track of time, at first? Why does she stop?
5. How does Ro-tu die? How does Karana end up with a son?
6. What is the earthquake like? How does it make Karana feel? How does it make her life harder?
7. How does Karana react when she sees a ship on the Aleut boat? Why don't the men find her?
8. How long is it before another boat comes?
9. Why has the boat come? What does Karana do when the men ask where the otters are?
10. How do the men treat Karana?
11. How do you imagine her to look as the ship takes her away? Which of her "friends" and possessions does she have with her?

Author's Note

1. How old was Karana when she was found? What was the year?
2. Why does the author refer to Karana as a "girl Robinson Crusoe" (p. 187)?
3. Who befriended her after her rescue?
4. How did she communicate?
5. Was Karana reunited with the other Indians of Ghalas-at?
6. Where is she buried?
7. What is the Island of the Blue Dolphins called now? What is it like today?

Name _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins
Activity #3: Vocabulary
Chapters 1-4

Aleut 9
ravine 12
leagues 15
springly 19

cormorants 10
intruders 12
clattered 15
carcasses 23

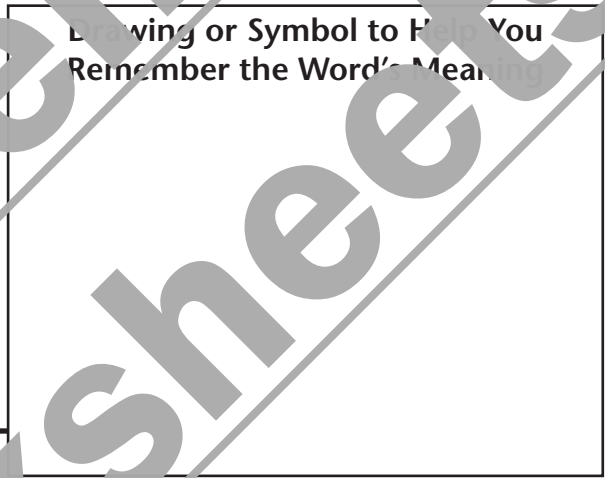
kelp 11
toyon 12
reefs 16
pelt 23

mesa 12
parley 13
befell 18

Directions: Divide the words among the members of your group. Turn to the pages on which your words appear in the novel. After looking at how each word is used, complete a word map for each of your words and share them with the rest of the group.

Synonyms

Drawing or Symbol to Help You Remember the Word's Meaning



Word:



Definition in Your Own Words:

Word Used in a Sentence:

Name _____

Island of the Blue Dolphins
Activity #10: Attribute Web
Use During or After Reading

Directions: Fill in the chart with words that tell about Karana.

Karana acts...

Karana looks...

Karana feels...

Name _____

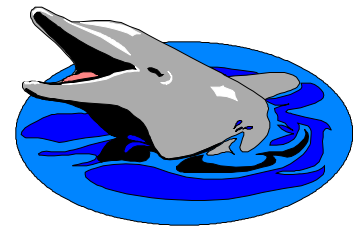
Island of the Blue Dolphins
Activity #12: Writing Response
Use During/After Reading

Directions: Talk with other members of your group about how Karana turned her loneliness, boredom, and fear into strength.

Now think about your own life. When have you been alone—or at least on your own, in some way? Were you lonely? If so, what helped you feel better? Did some good come out of those times of solitude? What did you learn about yourself? Write your thoughts and feelings below.



Student
Worksheets



By _____