

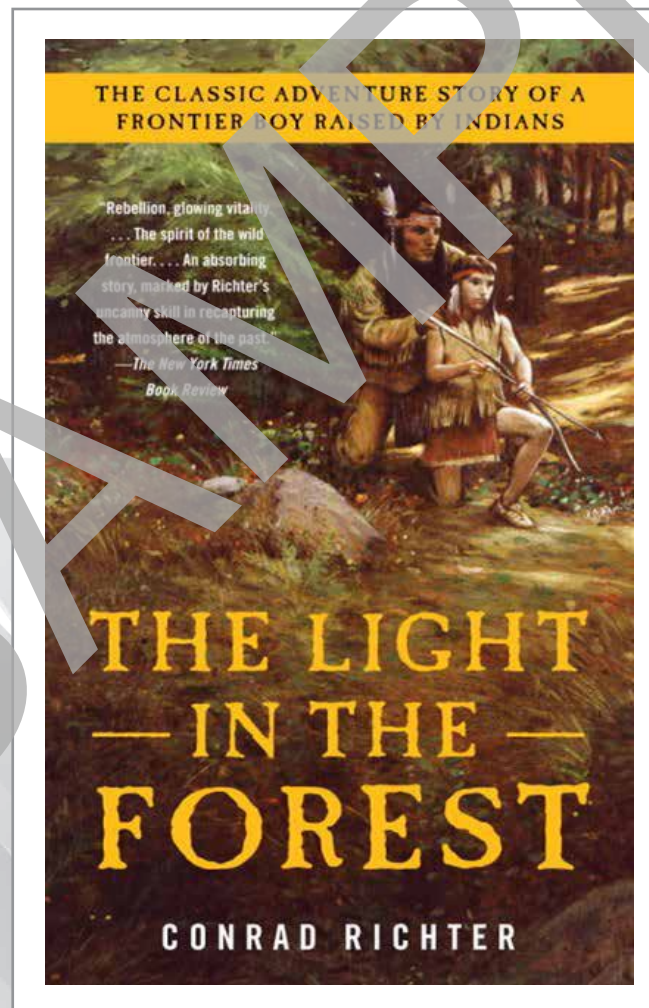


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 6-8

The Light in the Forest

Conrad Richter



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

The Light in the Forest

Conrad Richter

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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 _____

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ominous 16 | soberly 16 | fickle 17 | constriction 23 |
| stockades 23 | desolate 23 | stolid 24 | ostentation 24 |
| subjection 25 | bombarded 25 | restrained 25 | insignificant 26 |
| compressed 26 | pallid 26 | presumptuous 27 | |

Directions: Match each word or phrase below with the word in the synonym box above that means the same thing.

1. _____ flashiness
2. _____ sallow
3. _____ negligible
4. _____ barren
5. _____ impassive
6. _____ contraction
7. _____ sinister
8. _____ capricious
9. _____ impertinent
10. _____ gravely
11. _____ compliance
12. _____ abbreviated
13. _____ subdued
14. _____ blitzed
15. _____ defensive barriers

Name _____

Chapters 1-3

1. What happened to True Son when he was four?
2. Why did Cuyloga say that True Son's white blood had been taken out and Indian blood put in its place?
3. Why did Cuyloga take True Son to the council house of the whites?
4. Who is Del Hardy?
5. Who is the "wildest and most rebellious" prisoner Del had seen?
6. What is True Son's opinion of white men?
7. Why did True Son want to eat May apple roots?
8. What did Half Arrow bring to True Son?
9. Why does Half Arrow walk with True Son?

Chapters 4 and 5

10. What is the message to True Son from his father?
11. How does True Son react to the Pennsylvania farmland?
12. How does True Son act when his white father comes to meet him?

Chapters 6 and 7

13. Why did True Son react so strongly to hearing that the Paxton boys were his kin?
14. What does True Son's mother say when she is reunited with him?
15. Who is Gordie?
16. What is the Peshtank story?
17. Who is Uncle Wilse?
18. How do clothes cause a problem for True Son/John Butler?
19. Who is the basket maker?

Name _____

CRITICAL THINKING: CULTURAL BIAS

Directions: People from different cultures may view the same object or behavior very differently. For example, a Midwestern rancher thinks of cattle very differently from people in India who hold cows in sacred regard.

Throughout *The Light in the Forest* there are many pieces of evidence that point to differences in values and beliefs held by Native Americans and white colonists.

Consider each of the objects and behaviors below. Take the perspective of True Son, for a moment, and imagine the reactions you have to each. Supply descriptive words and phrases to describe what the object/behavior means to you. Then switch viewpoints and “become” one of the white characters, such as Del.

| | True Son | Del |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| pillow | strange, bends my neck | soft, comfortable |
| quilt | | |
| bearskin | | |
| corral | | |
| barn | | |
| emotional display | | |
| emotional restraint | | |
| hair-pulling | | |
| beef | | |
| bear meat | | |
| lock and key | | |
| fork and spoon | | |
| leather boots | | |
| moccasins | | |