Classic Readers

WHITE FANG

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retold by Jenny Dooley

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Chapter 2

Henry Is Alone

Henry continued alone. He put two straps from the sled over his shoulders and helped the last two dogs pull the sled. When night came, Henry stopped and built a fire. He had a lot of firewood. The dogs stayed close to him when they slept because they, too, were afraid of the forest now.

"I understand you. Stay close to me. Fort McGurry is still far away, but we'll try to get there together."

Henry did not sleep much. The last two dogs growled whenever the wolves moved closer and kept him awake. Henry could see the wolves' red eyes in the darkness. When they got too close, Henry had to do something. He picked up a burning piece of wood from the fire and threw it at them.

"Take that! I'll burn you if you get any closer!"

In the morning, Henry saw that there was no firewood on the sled.

"My God, those wolves stole the firewood! They know how to kill a man! I didn't think they were so clever!"

Henry knew he did not have much time before the wolves attacked him. He decided to leave Lord Alfred's coffin in a tree and come back for it later.

The journey was much faster now that the sled was empty. They went into another forest, and Henry stopped to cut some wood and build a fire for the night. But the wolves were hungry again. Henry threw burning wood at them to keep them away. The wolves went away but came back immediately. This happened a few times until Henry got very tired.

He went to sleep and did not hear the dogs growl anymore. When he woke up the she-wolf had her teeth around his arm. The other

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wolves were ready to attack him when he jumped into the fire and started kicking and throwing the burning wood all around him. It worked. The wolves ran away. When Henry looked for the dogs, he could not find them anywhere.

The next morning, Henry saw the hungry wolves moving around him again. They knew that he was now completely alone.

"You think you've got me, uh? You'll see!"

Henry knew that fire was his only weapon. He carried a burning piece of wood with him wherever he went. When night came, he built a circle of fire around him and sat in the middle. The wolves sat outside this ring of fire—waiting. Henry could see the she-wolf looking at him. He saw her white fangs. She looked like she was laughing at him. She looked up at the moon and gave a great howl. Then the other wolves howled.

In the end, Henry was too tired to even feel afraid.

"That's it! You win! I'm going to sleep. Do what you want. I don't care any more."

He woke up in the morning, and something was wrong. The fire was out, but the wolves were not there. Was he dreaming? He heard dogs barking, and then he saw three men on sleds. They stopped next to him.

"Are you one of Lord Alfred's men?"

"Yes. Am I glad to see you!"

"Where is Lord Alfred?"

"He's in a tree. Dead. In a box."

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The Call of the Wild

Comprehension

Read or listen to Chapter 5 and fill in the gaps with the names from the box. One name will be used more than once.

Kloo-kooch	Gray Beaver	White Fang	Mit-sah

Who ...

1 ... was the wife of Gray Beaver? .....
2 ... was going to be hit by another Indian boy, before White Fang saved him? .....
3 ... gave White Fang a plate full of meat? .....
4 ... loved his family and wanted to protect them? .....
5 ... wanted to live free? .....

What do you think?

1 What did Gray Beaver mean when he told White Fang *"You look after us, and we look after you"*?
2 How do you think White Fang managed to learn to live without his mother?
3 If you were White Fang, would you like to be free? Why? Discuss.

Language Practice

1 Write your own sentences using these phrases from Chapter 5. Then draw a picture of one of them.

1 a true fighter: .....
2 look after: .....
3 move on: .....
4 shake with anger: .....
5 take down: .....

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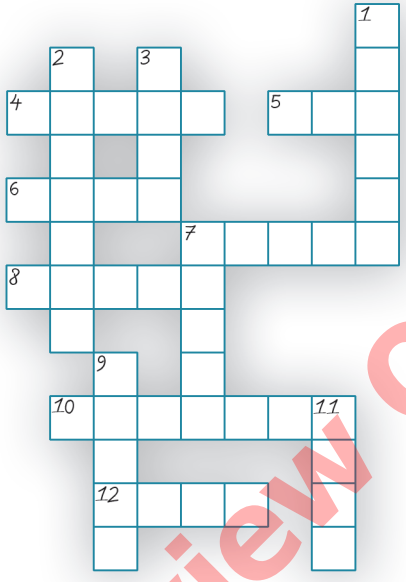
II Fill in the crossword (you can use the Word List of Chapter 5 for help).



Across

4 Two or more people, who are together at the same time.
5 If your child is a boy, he is your ... .
6 Wolves like to eat only ... .
7 When you describe something that happened, you tell a ... .
8 When you put your fingers on something, you ... it.
10 When you don't want anything bad to happen to somebody, you try to ... them.
12 When you are doing something and don't have time for something else, you are ... .

Down

1 When there is no one with you, and you feel sad, you are ... .
2 When you are free, you have your ... .
3 If you fall down and are in pain, you ... yourself.
7 To say something loudly.
9 The Apaches are an Indian ... .
11 Another word for "real".

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Native People

I *Gray Beaver and his tribe were Native Americans. Do you know what native people are? Are you a native in your country? If not, who were the first people in the country where you live? Discuss.*

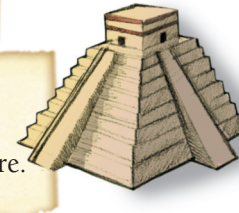
II *We learn a lot about native people and those who came after them from their artwork. Different countries often have styles of art or crafts that are not found anywhere else. Sometimes they are painted on the walls of caves or houses, or on stone, or carved in rocks. Sometimes they decorate tools or pottery, and they usually show scenes of daily life or special occasions.*

Can you guess where the following things came from? Read the clues and fill in the gaps. Clues:

1 Cleopatra was a queen here.
The Nile is a famous river here.
The Giza Pyramids were built here.
Where? .....

2 There were many ancient gods here.
The Olympics started here.
The Acropolis is a famous place here.
Where? .....

3 It is very hot here.
It is called the dark continent.
Elephants and giraffes live here.
Where? .....



4 It is directly south of the United States.
The people speak Spanish here.
The Aztec and Maya Native Americans lived here.
Where? .....

What do these things tell you about the people who made them? Discuss.

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Life among men is difficult for a wolf-dog. But life in the wild is even harder. White Fang has a choice to make. Will it be the right one?

Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Level 6

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