

Reading For Comprehension Series
By Lee Ann Berg

My Side of the Mountain

Written and Illustrated by Jean Craighead George
A Newbery Honor Book
Copyright 1959
Published by Scholastic 1988

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My Side of the Mountain
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Teacher's Guide

Please note: The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.*)

The page number of a vocabulary word or the range of page numbers may not correspond to the published text of the book you are using. If that is the case, you will find the vocabulary word and/or the basis for the comprehension questions and answers on pages that are approximately the same as those used in creating this study guide.

And the answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. Sometimes they have been written into shortened phrases. This makes the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.

Chapter IN WHICH I Hole Up in a Winter Storm Pp. 3-9

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found) None

Comprehension Questions

- 1. Where was Sam as he started to relate his story?** He was snug and warm in his tree house. It was early December, and he was sitting out a two day blizzard in the Catskill Mountains of New York.
- 2. Who was Sam looking forward to seeing once the snow stopped falling?** He was looking forward to seeing The Baron, a wild weasel who was a neighbor of his.
- 3. Why was Sam so elated once he emerged from his tree house?** He had been dreading the first real snow storm, and he had survived the event.
- 4. What clue did Sam have that a storm was approaching?** Frightful, his falcon was restless, the forest was dead quiet, and there were no squirrels or birds or The Baron to be seen.
- 5. What was carved in a tree close to Sam's tree house?** The word Gribley, which had been carved by Great Grandpa Gribley when he had tried farming and failed was on this tree. Great Grandpa left the land and went to sea.

Chapter IN WHICH I Get Started on This Venture Pp. 9-20

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

congregate (9, 13) assemble

frantically (5+, 15) marked by uncontrolled emotion or disordered anxious activity

Comprehension Questions

- 1. What did Sam buy from a Chinese store in the city that was a necessary purchase for the plans he had made? Pp. 9-10** He had purchased flint, steel, with tinder and a small purse to keep the stuff in. It was to be used for making fires.
- 2. Why did Sam cut a green twig near a stream? Pp. 11-12** He used it to make a hook to catch fish.
- 3. Why happened to the first hook Sam made when he had a fish on it? Pp. 13-14** He almost cried when the hook came apart. He lost a fish. On the next hook, he used string to hold it together. He did get 5 trout.
- 4. What happened that first night when Sam made his bed? Pp. 15-17** He put the bed in a poor place. He put it in a stream valley where the wind drained down from the cold mountain top. He was cold and damp. He couldn't get a fire started. It was a poor start to a grand adventure.
- 5. What did Sam learn from Bill who lived only 100 feet from Sam's first camp? Pp. 19-20** Bill said if Sam was going to run away Bill better teach him how to make a fire which he did.

Student's Guide

Chapter IN WHICH I Hole Up in a Winter Storm Pp. 3-9

Vocabulary None

Comprehension Questions

1. Where was Sam as he started to relate his story?
2. Who was Sam looking forward to seeing once the snow stopped falling?
3. Why was Sam so elated once he emerged from his tree house?
4. What clue did Sam have that a storm was approaching?
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Vocabulary

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Chapter THE MANNER IN WHICH I Find Gribley's Farm Pp. 20-24

Vocabulary

door whisked open (21)

independent (24)

Comprehension Questions

1. How did Sam learn where to find Great Grandpa Gribley's farm? Pp. 20-21
2. What made Sam want to go back to Delhi to the library? Pp. 22-23
3. What did Sam say about the catfish he caught? P. 24

Student's Workbook

Chapter IN WHICH I Hole Up in a Winter Storm Pp. 3-9

Vocabulary None

Comprehension Questions

1. Where was Sam as he started to relate his story? _____

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Chapter IN WHICH I Get Started on This Venture Pp. 9-20

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Workbook Answer Key

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Key Questions

My Side of the Mountain

Name _____

1. Why was Sam so elated once he emerged from his tree house? Pp. 3-9 _____

2. How did Sam learn where to find Great Grandpa Gribley's farm? Pp. 20-24 _____

3. What two things did Miss Turner, the librarian, help Sam with? Pp. 41-46 _____

4. What do you need to tan a deer hide to make it soft and supple? Pp. 58-68 _____

5. What did Sam decide he needed when he saw The Baron changing his mantle?
Pp. 85-93 _____

Key Questions Answer Key

My Side of the Mountain

Name _____

1. Why was Sam so elated once he emerged from his tree house? Pp. 3-9

Sam had been dreading the first real snow storm, and he had survived the event.

2. How did Sam learn where to find Great Grandpa Gribbley's farm? Pp. 20-24

He went to the Delhi library. Miss Turner, the librarian, helped him find the farm in an old book of Delaware County.

3. What two things did Miss Turner, the librarian, help Sam with? Pp. 41-46

She helped him find information on hawks and falcons. And she gave him a haircut.

4. What do you need to tan a deer hide to make it soft and supple? Pp. 58-68

You need tannic acid to tan a deer hide which can be provided by the wood from oak trees. This will make the hide ready to be chewed and rubbed and beaten to make it soft and supple.

5. What did Sam decide he needed when he saw The Baron changing his mantle?

Pp. 85-93

Sam realized that he didn't have warm winter clothes. And he decided he needed a way to heat his tree house.

Vocabulary Worksheet

Name _____

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. _____ Meaning: _____

2. _____ Meaning: _____

3. _____ Meaning: _____

4. _____ Meaning: _____

5. _____ Meaning: _____

6. _____ Meaning: _____

7. _____ Meaning: _____

8. _____ Meaning: _____

9. _____ Meaning: _____

10. _____ Meaning: _____

Comprehension Worksheet

Name _____

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name _____

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. _____ Meaning: _____

2. _____ Meaning: _____

3. _____ Meaning: _____

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____
