

The Bushcraft Kid

Teacher Resources, Week 5

This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Extended Writing Planning Sheet:** A planning sheet for a newspaper report on the Bushcraft Challenge.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Key Words and Phrases:** This section provides a selection of key words and phrases from the chapter for use in a classroom literacy display or 'working wall'.
- **Worksheets:** This section provides printable worksheets for student use. Answers are also provided where appropriate.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites and books that students might find useful.

Text Questions

Chapter 5: Race to the Finish

1. Did you enjoy the final chapter of *The Bushcraft Kid*? Did it end as you expected? What did you like most about this story?
2. List the reasons why Harley didn't leave injured Tasha on her own at the beginning of the chapter. Go back to the text to check that you have remembered them all.
3. Find the evidence in the text that shows why Harley himself could easily have slipped over as he slithered down the narrow path towards Tasha.
4. What looks like *ragged washing on a clothesline*? Go back to the text to find out.
5. When Harley reaches Tasha, how is she feeling? Why doesn't she want to use her flare?
6. What does Tasha mean when she tells Harley that she doesn't want the rangers to *get all 'Health and Safety' on us and cancel the competition*?
7. Does Mr Wilderness look exactly as Harley imagined he would? Go back to the text to find out.
8. Why does Tasha roll her eyes? Go back to the text to find out.
9. What is the only rule in the rafting competition? Why do you think the organizers had this rule?
10. What does Harley use to build his raft? What mistakes do the other contestants make when building theirs?
11. "*What're you making, Bushcraft Boy,*" Jackson sneered. "*A bird cage?*" Find the evidence in this excerpt that shows Jackson isn't asking a polite question here.

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12. What does Harley think is wrong with Jackson's raft?
13. What does Harley mean when he says, "*Your loss*" under his breath?
14. Why do you think Finn asks Harley, "*Why didn't you leave me*"?
15. What does Finn own up to, and why do you think he does this?
16. What happened when Harley accused Finn of the various acts of sabotage? At this point in the chapter, had you already worked out who the real saboteur was?
17. Why does Tasha end up in the water? Explain your answer.
18. Why do you think Finn and Tasha *weren't ready to give up* even though they were soaking wet? Explain your answer.
19. What causes Jackson's raft to subside? Go back to the text to find the evidence to answer this question.
20. What has Harley always wanted? Go back to the text to find out.
21. Explain why you think it was right or wrong that Harley won the trophy.
22. What did you think when you read the sentence '*That short walk was the most terrifying thing I had done in my life.*'? How would *you* have felt at this point?

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Writing Activities

Write a summary of *The Bushcraft Kid* in fewer than 150 words. Use dramatic verbs, nouns and adjectives in your writing.

Write an extra bit of text to add to the end of chapter 5 that describes what happens to Jackson after he falls into the water.

Mr Wilderness tells the competitors that the prize to the challenge will be a 'trip of a lifetime'. What would your trip of a lifetime be like? Write a description of this amazing holiday.

Write some clear step-by-step instructions on how to make a safe and effective river raft. Use books or the Internet for your research and draw labelled diagrams to help explain what you need to do.

Write a review of *The Bushcraft Kid*. Explain what you liked and/or did not like about the story. Would you recommend it to others? Don't forget to visit the Fiction Express blog, too, to tell us and the author, Jo Franklin, what you thought of the story.

Write a script for an interview between Harley and one of the TV journalists after the trophy ceremony. What questions would the journalist ask Harley? When you are happy with your script, get a friend to help you read it out, taking turns to play the role of the journalist and Harley.

Imagine you are Jackson. Write chapter 5, or part of chapter 5, from his point of view.

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Writing Task Planning Sheet

WALT (We Are Learning To) or Learning objective:

Plan and write a newspaper report on the Bushcraft Challenge

Imagine you are a journalist for the local paper. Write an exciting article about the South Peaks Bushcraft Challenge and its winners.

Planning

Vocabulary (WOW words to describe the raft race)	Conjunctions (words that join your ideas together)
Openers (how will you start your sentences)	Punctuation

Think of an eye-catching headline to go with your report: _____

Where and when did the Bushcraft Challenge take place? _____

Quotes from your interviews with the four finalists: _____

Describe the final moments of the raft race: _____

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Other Extension Activities

Art Activities

What do you think the Bushcraft Challenge trophy would look like? Write a description of it, then draw a picture, or create a model, of the trophy.

Design a leaflet about Iceland that will encourage tourists to visit. You might like to make your leaflet about the whole country, or focus on a particular location in Iceland. Make your leaflet as colourful and eye-catching as possible.

Illustrate your favourite part of chapter 5. Add an extended caption to explain what is going on in your picture.

Discussion Activities

In a small group, discuss whether you think Finn should have been awarded a share of the prize at the end of the story. Try to think of some arguments for, and arguments against.

In a small group, discuss what you think Jackson will have learnt from his experience in the Bushcraft Challenge. Do you think this experience will make him a better person?

Research Activities

Using the Internet, or books in your school library, find out all you can about Iceland. Then write at least four interesting fact sentences about this country.

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Using the Internet, find out what a geyser is. Draw a picture of a geyser and write a caption to explain what it is and how it works.

Using the Internet, find out all you can about lifejackets and how they work. Make notes on what you discover.

Key Words and Phrases

Here is a list of interesting or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 5 of *The Bushcraft Kid*: **slithered, precipice, precarious, submerged, current, summoned, pleadingly, under my breath**

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

slithered

precipice

precarious

submerged

current

summoned

pleadingly

under my
breath

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Worksheet (page 1 of 2)

The following words were all used in Chapter 5 of *The Bushcraft Kid*: **draped, current, buoyancy, plastered, dumb, distress, summoned.**

Fit the words into the correct sentences below. One of the words appears in two of the sentences. Which one is it?

1. My sister came home from her football match _____ in mud. She didn't care though as she had scored a goal!
2. Mr White _____ me to his office so I could explain why I hadn't done my homework.
3. The old lady was in great _____ because she had lost her purse.
4. Dad _____ the newly ironed shirts over the back of the sofa so they didn't get creased.
5. The police officer explained that it was important to stay away from the river edge as the _____ in that part of the river was so strong.
6. My best friend called me _____ for having so carelessly lost my pocket money.
7. My little brother wears _____ aids when he is at the swimming pool as he cannot swim properly yet and doesn't like going under the water.
8. My science teacher showed us how an electric _____ flows through a circuit.

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Worksheet (page 2 of 2)

Now make up eight interesting sentences of your own using these words: **draped, current, buoyancy, plastered, dumb, distress, summoned.**

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

Sentence 3: _____

Sentence 4: _____

Sentence 5: _____

Sentence 6: _____

Sentence 7: _____

Sentence 8: _____

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Worksheet – ANSWERS

1. My sister came home from her football match **plastered** in mud. She didn't care though as she had scored a goal!
2. Mr White **summoned** me to his office so I could explain why I hadn't done my homework.
3. The old lady was in great **distress** because she had lost her purse.
4. Dad **draped** the newly ironed shirts over the back of the sofa so they didn't get creased.
5. The police officer explained that it was important to stay away from the river edge as the **current** in that part of the river was so strong.
6. My best friend called me **dumb** for having so carelessly lost my pocket money.
7. My little brother wears **buoyancy** aids when he is at the swimming pool as he cannot swim properly yet and doesn't like going under the water.
8. My science teacher showed us how an electric **current** flows through a circuit.

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Picture Resources

This picture shows a home-made bamboo raft.



Is this what you thought Harley's raft might look like?

How is this raft different from Harley's raft?

Would you take to the river on a raft like this one? Give reasons for your answer.

Which materials would you have chosen to make a raft in the Bushcraft Challenge?

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Picture Resources

This picture shows people whitewater rafting.



Why is it called whitewater rafting?

Why is everyone wearing helmets?

Would you like to go whitewater rafting? Give reasons for your answer.

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Picture Resources

These two pictures show Icelandic landscapes.



Why do you think Harley is so excited to be going to Iceland?

What is the name of the geographical feature through which the river is flowing?*

How do these pictures make you feel?

Do you think you would like to go to Iceland? Give reasons for your answer.

Where is Iceland? Look for Iceland in an atlas or on the Internet.

* a gorge or canyon

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Resources

Websites

Kids World Travel Guide: Iceland Facts

<http://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/iceland-facts.html>

Science Kids: Iceland

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/countries/iceland.html>

A to Z Kids Stuff: Information about Iceland including things to make, stories, colouring pages and facts.

<http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/iceland.html>

National Geographic Education: Geysers

<http://education.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/geyser/>

Science Kids: Geyser facts

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/earth/geysers.html>

Easy Science for Kids: Geysers and Hot Springs

<http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-geysers-and-hot-springs/>

Boat Safe Kids: Why do Life Jackets Float?

<http://www.boatsafe.com/kids/pfdfloat.htm>

Note to teachers: Every effort has been made by the Publishers to ensure that these websites are suitable for children, that they are of the highest educational value, and that they contain no inappropriate or offensive material. However, because of the nature of the Internet, it is impossible to guarantee that the content of these sites will not be altered. We strongly advise that Internet access is supervised by a responsible adult.

Books

Jaw-Dropping Geography: Fun Learning Facts About Interesting Iceland by Jess Roche. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014.

Iceland (Country Explorers) by Jennifer A. Miller. Lerner Classroom, 2010.