

# Courage and Survival

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### For the Teacher:

Introduction .....	2
Suggestions for Using the Unit .....	2
Tracking Sheets for Activity Cards .....	4
Evaluation Sheets:	
Peer Evaluation Sheet .....	6
Self Evaluation Sheet .....	7
Video Evaluation Sheet .....	8
Movie Evaluation Sheet .....	9
Venn Diagram .....	10
List of Novels for Courage and Survival .....	11

### Short Novel Studies:

<i>Robinson Crusoe</i> .....	13
<i>Fever 1793</i> .....	19
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> .....	25
<i>The Cay</i> .....	31
<i>After the War</i> .....	36
<i>Hatchet</i> .....	42
<i>Memory Boy</i> .....	47

### Answer Key for Comprehension Activities:

<i>Robinson Crusoe</i> .....	52
<i>Fever 1793</i> .....	53
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> .....	54
<i>The Cay</i> .....	55
<i>After the War</i> .....	56
<i>Hatchet</i> .....	57
<i>Memory Boy</i> .....	59

<b>Activity Cards for All Novels</b> .....	61
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## Understanding the Plot

*Answer the following questions in complete sentences where appropriate.  
Refer to the novel for help if necessary.*

1. Why did Captain Orlov and his men come to Karana's island?
2. How did Karana feel about the Aleuts hunting the sea otters?
3. The Aleuts broke their word about fair trading. What was the result of this?
4. How did life change for Karana's people after the death of so many men?
5. What did Karana decide to take with her when everyone was making preparations to leave the island?
6. After boarding the ship, Karana returned to the shore. Why did she do this?
7. Ramo was not concerned about being left on the island. Explain why he felt this way.
8. What happened to Ramo?
9. Karana hunted for weapons that might have been abandoned instead of making them. Why did she do this?
10. Karana eventually decided she would have to make weapons of her own. What made her come to this decision?
11. When Karana tried to leave the island, but was forced to return because it leaked, she was glad to see the dolphins. Explain.
12. Karana decided to build a house to provide a more permanent shelter. Why?
13. Karana kept herself very busy during the winter months. Make a list of the various things she did.
14. Karana intended to kill a bull sea elephant, but was unable to do so. Why was this?
15. What did Karana find when she returned to the place where the sea elephants lived? What had happened?
16. What happened when Karana's arrow hit the leader of the pack of wild dogs?

## Activities for *The Cay*

1. Using the information given in the novel, make a map of the cay. Locate and label all the placers mentioned in the novel. Create a legend for your map, and give it a title.
2. The childhood experiences of Timothy and Phillip were vastly different. Use the Venn diagram to compare these.
3. What is a cay? How might it have been formed? How stable are cays? Use the resources available to you to answer these questions. You may draw diagrams to help you answer the questions if you wish.
4. Phillip was blind and unable to see, but his other senses appeared to increase to compensate for this. Give examples from the novel telling how his other senses helped him to live and survive on the island.
5. Timothy had an attack of malaria while they were stranded on the island. What is malaria? What causes it? What are its symptoms? Can it be cured. Is it preventable? Make jot notes as you use the available resources to research this topic. Use the jot notes to write an essay on malaria.
6. Timothy's knowledge enabled them to survive on the cay. Give examples from the novel to illustrate this. Do you think Phillip would have survived if he had been alone? How well do you think they would have fared if he had been stranded on the cay with his mother? Do you think you would be able to survive under similar circumstances?

### **Activity Card # 7**

Think about the main character in the novel that you have just read.

What characteristics did this person have that enabled them to survive the events in the novel?

Do you feel that you could have survived under these same conditions?

Why or why not?

### **Activity Card # 8**

Suppose you were shipwrecked on a small island in a tropical climate, what would you have to do in order to survive?

How would you go about this?

If you could have six useful items with you that would make survival easier, what items would you choose to have?

Give reasons for your choice.