



St. Patricia School

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Character ♦ Academics ♦ Compassion ♦ Faith

Dear Parents,

As part of our Language Arts Curriculum, the students are asked to actively engage in the reading of a variety of literature. This summer the incoming 7th grade is asked to read *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.

While reading *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen each student will have to complete a list of questions. The questions and answers need to be typed following this format.

1. **Question and Page #**

Typed answer

(Skip a space)

2. **Next question**

Also, each question should have the page number listed. This number corresponds to the page number from the book, which held the answer to the question. Skip a space between questions.

Do not forget to write the page numbers down. It is harder to go back after you finish reading the book. You would have to read the whole story again.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Amy Barnard

Hatchet

Comprehension Questions

1. Why do you think Brian doesn't tell his father the "secret"?
2. Where is the plane taking Brian? Why?
3. How does the pilot treat Brian?
4. What was Brian's mother's gift to him when he left? How did he feel as he accepted the gift? Why?
5. What happens to terrify Brian?
6. How does he handle the emergency? What would you do?
7. Why is Brian looking for a lake?
8. Why doesn't Brian drown in the crash?
9. What is "The Secret," and how does it make Brian feel?
10. As the sun comes up, Brian's eyes become swollen shut within moments. What is the cause?
11. How does Brian feel as he looks around all the scenery?
12. Brian is thirsty and does something he knows he shouldn't. What is that? What is the result?
13. What happened before the plane crashed that might make it more difficult for searchers to find Brian?
14. Why does Brian think of Mr. Perpich?
15. List everything Brian has when the plane crashed.
16. Describe the shelter Brian decides to build.
17. Brian wonders what there is to eat. What ideas does the TV show Brian once saw give him? What mistakes does Brian make when he first finds food?
18. Why is Brian so upset about what he saw in the mall? What do you learn about the "Secret" that you didn't know before?
19. Why is Brian frightened by his reflection in the water?
20. Why isn't Brian worried about eating the new kind of berries?
21. What problems does Brian run into while he is berry-picking? Why doesn't he run far away?
22. How does Brian become injured? How could he have avoided getting hurt?
23. After the attack, Brian learns the most important rule of survival, what is it?
24. How does Brian get his idea for starting a fire?
25. Brian figures out how to make sparks, but he still has other problems to solve before he will have a good fire. What are the problems?
26. How does he finally start the fire from the hatchet sparks?
27. Who is Brian's hungry friend?
28. Why can't Brian leave the fire? How does he solve the problem?
29. What are the clues that the sounds Brian heard at night were made by a turtle?
30. Does Brian like the taste of the eggs? Why does Brian stand so that he can't see the eggs after eating a few of them?
31. Why does Brian bother to clean his camp?
32. How is Brian's body changing from the way it was before the crash?

33. How long does Brian work on the fish spear? What is the result?
34. How is Brian's mind different now? Are the changes good?
35. When does Brian begin thinking about his mother's baked chicken? Why?
36. What happens to make Brian lose hope that he will ever be found?
37. How are Brian's feelings when he sees the wolf like his feelings when he sees the bear?
38. How many days have passed since the crash?
39. When did he try to kill himself? Why?
40. Who is the "new Brian" and what two things does he know that the old Brian did not?
41. What are the two mistakes Brian makes? Why do you suppose he mentally lists them to tell his father?
42. What does a "first day" mean to Brian? Name three of his "first days."
43. Why is the day Brian washed the dead bird in the lake almost the last day of his life?
44. How is Brian's experience with the moose the opposite of what he experienced with the bear and the wolf?
45. How does Brian suddenly lose everything? What is his reaction?
46. Why does Brian try to say some words for the pilot after the tornado? What are the words?
47. After the tornado, what problem does Brian attack first?
48. When is it that Brian decides to try to get into the plane? What does he hope to find? Why hasn't he tried to find it earlier?
49. Why does Brian build a raft?
50. Brian faces a problem when making the raft, what is it? How does he use what he learned making the walls of his shelter to solve the problem of the raft?
51. What solution does Brian come up with for keeping the raft in place by the plane?
52. What does Brian visualize his mother doing? What does this show you about the kind of person she is?
53. How does Brian decide to get inside the plane? Why does he have to dive to the bottom of the lake first?
54. What does Brian see that upsets him so much?
55. What does Brian find in the survival bag?
56. How does Brian feel about the gun?
57. Why isn't Brian very excited about finding a transmitter?
58. What is on the menu of Brian's feast?
59. What happens to interrupt Brian's dinner? How does he react?
60. Why does this pilot find Brian when so many others had not?
61. Why is it a good thing that the pilot finds Brian when he does?
62. Name three ways the experience has changed Brian forever.
63. On what topic does Brian do research on after he returns home?
64. What sorts of dreams does Brian have after returning home?