

Includes 18 Activities to deepen student understanding.

Focuses include: Plot, Theme, Character Analysis, Setting, Figurative Language, and more!

Name _____

ASK AND ANSWER Questions

Read each question stem word on each shape below. Inside of each shape, write questions and answers about the story. Write the questions in one color, and write the answers in a different color. Write *at least* one question per shape.

Who

What

Where

Name _____

Brian's Winter: Themes

Underneath the three story themes below, you will find a list of related questions. Choose and circle one question in each category to answer. Be sure to thoroughly explain your answer. On the back of this page, illustrate one of your answers in a creative way.

THEME 1: <i>Survival</i>	THEME 2: <i>Loneliness</i>	THEME 3: <i>Appreciation of Nature</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are some things Brian must do in the story in order to survive? why does he have mixed feelings about some of the things he must do? Can you relate? How? Give some examples of major lessons that Brian learns regarding survival. If <i>Brian's winter</i> had a different setting, how might that have changed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do you think loneliness affects humans? What are some ways that Brian tries to cope with his loneliness? Write about a time that you felt lonely, what do you think would have made you feel better? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do you know that Brian appreciates and respects nature? Find evidence in the book to support this. How can we as humans show more appreciation and respect for nature? When humans don't appreciate nature, what do you think happens as a result? Explain your thinking.

Name _____

Summarizing the PLOT

Think about the chapters you just read. In the appropriate places below, write 2-3 complete sentences summarizing the *most important parts* of the beginning, middle, and end. Then, illustrate the beginning, middle, and end.

Beginning	Illustration
Middle	Illustration

Name _____ Date _____

Something else he had learned: Do what you can as you can. Trouble, problems, will come no matter what you do, and you must respond as they come.

Problems and Solutions

Brian encounters many problems in the story. Write about each problem and write about his solution for each one. Then, illustrate each example.

Problem	Solution	Illustration

Name _____

HOW TO Survive a Northern Winter

Write some things Brian must do in order to survive the harsh winter. Illustrate each thing in the boxes on the left.

When

What

First, _____

Next, _____

Last, _____

Name _____

Cause and Effect

Cut out each box. On another piece of paper, glue the cause next to its effect.

Causes	Effects
Cause: The food from the emergency pack runs out. (Chapter 1)	Effect: Brian struggles to find dry wood to feed his fire.
Cause: A bear comes to Brian's camp. (Chapters 2-3)	Effect: Brian looks around to find the wolf's kill and finds their leftovers, which is a doe.
Cause: It rains steadily for many days in a row and gets colder and colder. (Chapter 4)	Effect: Brian feels relieved, because the food had softened him and made him want more and more.
Cause: Brian decides to try to hunt in the cold rain. (Chapter 4)	Effect: Brian decides he needs a stronger weapon, or a war bow.
Cause: Brian tries to bring the fire into his shelter. (Chapter 4)	Effect: The skunk keeps coming back for more food, and Brian names it Betty.
Cause: Brian sees a big wolf holding a large piece of meat in his mouth. (Chapter 5)	Effect: Brian sets the doe's head in the fork of a tree and thanks her for her meat.
Cause: Seeing the eyes of the dead doe bothers Brian. (Chapter 5)	Effect: Smoke from the fire quickly fills the shelter, so Brian makes a hole in the ceiling.
Cause: Brian feeds a skunk to avoid getting sprayed by it. (Chapters 5-6)	Effect: Brian is very surprised to find that hunting is better during rain than clear weather.

Name _____

Character Response Analysis

Below, read the 3 listed events or challenges from the story. Then, write about a chosen character's responses to each event or challenge. Finally, write what that reaction tells you about him or her.

Story Event	Brian's Response (Emotions and Actions)	What this tells me about Brian
Brian realizes that summer is over, and that the cold will only get worse. (Chapter 3)	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
A skunk visits Brian over and over, expecting to be fed every time. (Chapters 5-6)	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
Brian realizes that the rabbits have grown larger feet so they can better walk on the snow. (Chapter 14)	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

Extra *Goodies* make it so easy to use!

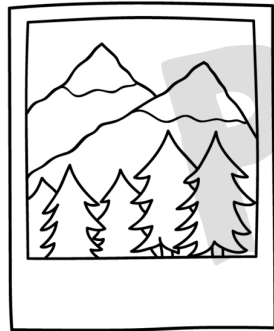
Student Packet Cover provided.

Standards are named for you!

End-of-the-book Project Choices to wrap it up!

ACTIVITY PACKET BRIAN'S WINTER

By Gary Paulsen



Name _____

TABLE OF CONTENTS: Reading Response Activities

Focus	Common Core	Pages	Resource	Use with Chapter(s)
		3	Activity Packet Cover	
Ask and Answer Questions	RL 3.1/RL 4.1/RL 5.1/RL 6.1	4	Ask and Answer Questions	any
Theme	RL 3.2/RL 4.2/RL 5.2/RL 6.2	5	Brian's Winter: Themes	Use after finishing the novel.
		6	Lesson Exploration *Answer key provided on pg. 103	Use after finishing the novel.
Plot	RL 3.3/RL 4.3/RL 5.3/RL 6.3	7	Summarizing the Plot	any
		8	Problems and Solutions *Answer key provided on pg. 104	Use throughout the novel.
		9	How to Survive a Northern Winter *Answer key provided on pg. 105	Use throughout the novel.
		10	Cause and Effect *Answer key provided on pg. 106	1-6
Character Analysis	RL 3.3/RL 4.3/RL 5.3/RL 6.3	11	Character Response Analysis *Answer key provided on pg. 107	3, 5-6, and 14
Setting	RL 3.3/RL 4.3/RL 5.3/RL 6.3	12-13	Setting Anchor Poster (in color and b/w)	any
		14	Setting: The Five Senses *Answer key provided on pg. 108	8
		15	Brian's Winter: Create a Collage	any
Figurative Language	RL 3.4/RL 4.4/RL 5.4/RL 6.4	16-17	Figurative Language Poster (in color and b/w)	any
		18	Figurative Language Types	any
		19	My Figurative Language Acrostic Poem *Answer key provided on pg. 109	any
Point of View	RL 3.6/RL 4.6/RL 5.6/RL 6.6	20	Point of View: David Smallhorn *Answer key provided on pg. 110	17 & Epilogue
Connecting Text with Visual Media	RL 3.7/RL 4.7/RL 5.7/RL 6.7	21	Design a Movie Poster	Use after finishing the novel.
Reading Comprehension	RL 3.10/RL 4.10/RL 5.10/RL 6.10	22	Reading Strategy: Predictions	any
		23	Learning Log	any
		24	After Brian Goes Home	any
Opinion Writing	W 3.1/W 4.1/W 5.1/W 6.1	25	My Book Review: Brian's Winter	Use after finishing the novel.
Informational Writing	W 3.2/W 4.2/W 5.2/W 6.2	26	Author's Biography	any
		27	Culminating Project Choices	Use after finishing the novel.
		28-35	Answer Keys provided for: Lesson Exploration-pg. 28 Problems and Solutions-pg. 29 How to Survive a Northern Winter-pg. 30 Cause and Effect-pg. 31 Character Response Analysis-pg. 32 Setting: The Five Senses-pg. 33 My Figurative Language Acrostic Poem-pg. 34 Point of View: David Smallhorn-pg. 35	

Name _____

Culminating Project Choices

Now that you have completed the book, choose one of the final projects to do below!

- ANIMAL RESEARCH:** Brian learns a lot about animals and how they communicate. Choose one animal that Brian encounters in Brian's Winter. Research that animal's method of communication, how it protects itself, and other interesting facts about the animal. Create a brochure all about that animal.
- THE HISTORY OF HUNTING:** Brian uses his knowledge of how ancient people hunted in order to survive. Use the library to research ancient hunters and their methods. Create a poster or a presentation about your findings.
- IMAGERY:** Gary Paulsen is a master at helping you to imagine the story using detailed imagery. Re-read some examples of imagery from the book. Using the text, draw or paint a detailed picture of that part of the book.
- READ THE SERIES:** Read another book in the series. The other books are: *Hatchet*, *The River*, and *Brian's Return*. Write a summary and a book review about whichever book you read. Be sure to include a complete summary of the book, along with your opinion of the book.
- PLAYWRIGHT:** Choose your favorite scene(s) from *Brian's Winter*. Write it in the form of a play. Either record it to show to the class, or perform it in front of the class!
- BOARD GAME:** Create a board game which is themed around *Brian's Winter*. Be creative!
- NEWS INTERVIEW:** Imagine you are a journalist that is interviewing Brian about his winter and about how he managed to survive. Write a script for it. With a partner, either record it to show to the class, or perform it in front of the class!
- RESEARCH & LEARN:** Do some more research about any topic from the book that sparked your interest. Some examples are: arrowheads, hunting, moose, snowshoes, trees freezing, or winters in Canada. Create or write something to show what you learned. You can create a poster, a Power Point presentation, an essay, or something else!
- VIVID VOCABULARY:** Create some sort of game using new and expressive vocabulary from the book. Be creative and try playing it with other students in the class!
- SCULPTURES:** Create sculptures, puppets, or models of Brian, other characters, and the animals he encountered using any material you choose. You could use a combination of paper, rocks, clay, poster board, old toys, sticks, or anything you can think of!

My Choice(s): _____

My Grade: _____

Comments: _____

Google Slides Version *included.*



- Full-color, interactive adaptations of all resources.
- Text boxes placed everywhere students must type.
- Students can access the digital version from home OR school.
- Teachers and students can easily send this back and forth using Google Drive or Google Classroom!
- Easy instructions included.

Your purchase includes *both* the printable & the Google *versions* of this resource.

See what other teachers are *saying* about **my resources!**

I do not know where to even start with how much I loved this unit! It has absolutely everything you could need with very little prep. The chapter by chapter worksheets vary in the skills that are used and the assessments are a great variety of skills. I have purchased many novel units over the years and this was by far my very favorite with the most options of materials that were ready to use. It was the most expensive unit I have ever purchased but it was worth it! I will definitely be purchasing more units from Nothing but Class!

-Sarah P.

FANTASTIC resource! This novel study offers a simple but meaningful format, divides the book into very manageable portions, and includes all levels of thinking, from vocabulary study to higher-order analysis. LOVE IT!

-Shirley Y.

I LOVE this novel study unit. Not only did it help take the stress of prepping a novel study, it also helped my students (and me) pace ourselves through the book and strengthen our comprehension as we read. I love all the different standards touched in each of the different chapter sections. It was great for both teaching the skills, and reviewing the skills. I will use this every time I teach this study!

-Shelby M.



I have used many of the novel study resources from Nothing but Class and they are very well put together. Just the right amount of work for my 4th graders this year and the chapter worksheets have a nice variety of questions covering many key skills, particularly connecting text to self and providing text evidence to support answers.

-Elizabeth F.

This was truly the best resource I have ever purchased on TPT. It had everything we needed to do a class novel study on Holes - comprehension questions, robust vocabulary, writing prompts, and standards based practice (similes, sensory details, setting, characterization, etc.). My students loved doing the "pre-write" section before we read the book together. I will use this resource for years to come! I am going to be purchasing a few other novel studies from this author so that my students can do them during distance learning.

-Tessa V.

www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Nothing-but-Class

www.nothingbutclassresources.com