

6th Grade Summer Reading

Part 1: Read A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Background Information:

Water and Cultures in the Ancient World

Water was the center of life in many ancient cultures. In Greek mythology, one of the most ancient and powerful gods was Neptune, the god of the sea. Ancient Greek literature, such as *The Odyssey* by Homer (about 800 b.c.e.), mentions sea monsters, whirlpools, and harrowing voyages upon the sea. In India, the Ganges River was considered sacred from historical accounts over 3000 years old. To the ancient Egyptians, the Nile River was the political, economic, and life-sustaining center of their kingdom. Without the Nile, Egypt would be as barren as its nearby deserts. Ancient civilizations' respect for water grew from their absolute need for water.

Today, access to fresh water remains a critical humanitarian issue. This issue is captured in the true story of Salva Duce. Read the book A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park and answer the questions in this packet. We will return to this timeless theme of water throughout our study of world geography and ancient civilizations.

As you read, answer the questions below. Answers should be written or typed in complete sentences, on a separate piece of paper.

Pages 1-7

1. Who are the 2 main characters? What years do they live in?
2. What makes the teacher's lesson stop?
3. Where does Salva run?

Pages 8-13

4. Where are the people going?
5. What does Salva realize when he wakes up?

Pages 14-19

6. Where does Nya put the bucket of water?
7. Why does the woman tell Salva he can't come with her?

Pages 20-25

8. What is Nya's job?
9. What is Salva's problem when the peanuts are gone?
10. What does Buksa find?

Pages 26-32

11. What tribe is Nya from?
12. How are Marial and Salva similar?

Pages 33-38

13. Why does Nya's mother hate the lake?
14. Who does Salva find?
15. What does Salva's uncle say when he wakes him up?

Pages 39-44

16. What is happening to Akeer?
17. What do they think happened to Marial?
18. What are the people building with reeds?

Pages 45-50

19. What is Akeer supposed to do before drinking the water?
20. What happened at night on the island?

Pages 51-56

21. Why did the strangers come to Nya's village?
22. Why does the voice tell the woman not to share her water with the dying men?

Pages 57-63

23. Where does Nya hear they will find water?
24. What will Uncle do when they reach the refugee camp?
25. What do the Nuer men do with Uncle's gun?

Pages 64-69

26. What are the people of Nya's village doing when she goes to get water?
27. How are the other people treating Salva now?
28. Who does Salva think he sees in the refugee camp?

Pages 70-75

29. What are the women gathering?
30. Where is Salva's story taking place now?
31. How long does Salva live in the camp?
32. Why does Salva leave the camp?

Pages 76-82

33. What do the workers need to get to keep the drill running smoothly?
34. Where is the setting of Salva's story now?
35. What saves Salva's life from the bullets?

Pages 83-89

36. What problem does Nya notice about the water?
37. What is the setting for Salva now?
38. What is Michael teaching Salva?
39. Where is Salva going after Kenya?

Pages 90-96

40. How much longer before Nya can drink the groundwater?
41. What surprises Salva about the temperature in New York?

Pages 97-102

42. What sport does Salva play?
43. Who does Salva find out is still alive?

Pages 103-110

44. What does Nya's father say they will build?
45. Why does Salva need to speak in front of groups?

Pages 111-115

46. Where did the money for the well come from?
47. Who is the crew leader who dug the well?

Pages 116-117

48. What is the name of Salva's organization?

Page 118-end

49. What genre is this story?
50. How can you learn more about Salva's organization?
51. How can you help?

BONUS: Check out Salva Duc's TED talk detailing his journey!

Part 2: Read 2 books from the list below.

The House of Dies Drear by Virginia Hamilton

The Saturdays Book by Elizabeth Enright

Seabiscuit by Laura Hillenbrand

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes

*Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greene

The 13 Clocks by James Thurber

The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh by Robert O'Brien

*The Silver Crown by Robert O'Brien

Onion John by Joseph Krumbold

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

*Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Justen

Warhorse by Michael Morpurgo

*Half Magic by Edward Eager

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi

*The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Stewart

*=*student favorite*