

STONE FOX

By: John Reynolds Gardiner

Before Reading Question:

Tell about a time when you made up your mind to do something no matter what, and you did it. _____

For all response questions, answers must be in COMPLETE SENTENCES. Points will be deducted for any answers that are not complete sentences.

For all vocabulary, answers do not need to be in complete sentences. You may use context clues or a dictionary to find definitions.

VOCABULARY

Chapter 1 – Grandfather

explanation - _____

wrinkles - _____

harmonica - _____

hitched - _____

palomino - _____

proceeded - _____

examination - _____

Chapter 2 – Little Willy

irrigation - _____

disappeared - _____

excitement - _____

hopeless - _____

determined - _____

Chapter 3 – Searchlight

outskirts - _____

loomed - _____

twilight - _____

gully - _____

impatiently - _____

Chapter 4 – The Reason

ricocheting - _____

derringer - _____

authority - _____

exposing - _____

Chapter 5 – The Way

situation - _____

recommended - _____

bobbled - _____

Chapter 6 – Stone Fox

amateurs - _____

strutted - _____

unison - _____

moccasins - _____

contestants - _____

Chapter 7 – The Meeting

embarrassed - _____

treacherous - _____

investigate - _____

Chapter 8 – The Day

swollen - _____

knuckles - _____

Chapter 9 – The Race

dangerous - _____

disqualified - _____

attempted - _____

magnificent - _____

Chapter 10 – The Finish Line

instantly - _____

massive - _____

victory - _____

challenger - _____

What do you think the author's purpose is for writing Stone Fox?

What is the genre (type of book)? _____

Chapter 1: Grandfather

1. Why is Little Willy living with his grandfather?

2. When and where does this story take place? How do you know?

3. Imagine yourself as Willy. How would you feel about Grandfather's getting-up-late cure? _____

4. Did it surprise you that Doc Smith is a woman? Why or why not? _____

Describe what she looks like. _____

5. Why doesn't Doc Smith answer Willy's questions? _____

6. What do you think is making Grandfather not want to live? _____

Chapter 2: Little Willy

Name _____

1. What will happen to Willy if Grandfather doesn't get well? _____

2. What does your family do to stick together? _____

3. Why do you think the author has Grandfather begin communicating with Willy again?

4. Grandfather says, "Don't accept help unless you can pay for it, especially from friends." Do you agree with this advice? Why or why not?

5. The successful harvest doesn't change Grandfather. What could the problem be?

How does Willy harvest the crop? _____

Chapter 3: Searchlight

1. How does Willy know how to prepare for winter?

2. Describe Searchlight. Include details about how she looks and acts.

3. How do Willy and Searchlight feel about each other? How do you know?

4. The author describes Willy and Searchlight's races as "A race against time. A race against themselves. A race they always won." What does this mean?

Chapter 4: The Reason

1. Who is the owner of the horse tied up in front of the house? _____

Why is he visiting Grandfather? _____

2. How did Searchlight react to this visitor? Why do you think she reacted in this way?

3. What are taxes, and why do people have to pay them? _____

Write a 3 sentence summary of Ch. 4.

Stone Fox

Chapter 5: The Way

1. If Little Willy pays the taxes, do you think Grandfather will get better? Explain.

2. What advice would you give to Willy about his plan to save the farm?

Chapter 6: Stone Fox

1. Who do you think deserves to win the race - Willy or Stone Fox? Give reasons for your answer. _____

2. The author of the book describes Stone Fox and his team of Samoyeds. On the back of this page, draw and color an illustration of how you think they look. Be sure to include many details in your drawing.

Chapter 7: The Meeting

1. Doc Smith says she thinks Willy is a “darn fool”, but she is rooting for him. Have you ever had mixed feelings like this? When and why?

2. Describe the meeting between Willy and Stone Fox in the barn. _____

3. Why did Stone Fox hit Little Willy? _____

4. Do you think Stone Fox cares about Willy’s troubles? Give reasons for your answer. _____

Stone Fox

Chapter 8: The Day

1. Willy said he "...loved animals too much to be a hunter." What are your feelings about hunting? _____

2. Explain why Willy did not tell the truth about how he got his black eye.

3. Make a prediction...do you think Willy has a chance to win?

Chapter 9: The Race

1. Why does Stone Fox start the race so slowly? _____

2. Willy takes a shortcut across the ice. Is this fair? Why or why not?

3. You have just finished reading this part of the book, and Stone Fox and Little Willy are close together in the dog sled race. How do you think the race will end? Draw a picture to show how you think the racers will finish.

