

6th Grade Language Arts and Social Studies Summer Assignment: A Preliminary Look at Prehistoric Man with The Boy of the Painted Cave, by Justin Denzel

The first unit we will cover together at the beginning of Quarter 2 focuses on the culture of prehistoric man. To prepare for our investigation into these early people, over the summer you will read the book titled, The Boy of the Painted Cave, by Justin Denzel and complete the attached assignment. This book tells the tale of a young boy in a prehistoric clan who is uninterested in the role he is expected to fill in the group—hunting. The story is filled with details about the culture (foods, jobs, past-times, beliefs, etc.) of Paleolithic (early Stone Age) man and you will collect these details to use later in the fall during your first round of social studies.

The chart attached to this form must be completed either while or soon after you read. If you choose to wait until you finish reading, you will need to mark sections in the book with Post-Its as you go. I would suggest each Post-It contains: the page number of the important text, the first few words of the selection, and the category (from the chart) that connects to the selection of text. You can use these Post-Its later to

complete the attached chart. After the chart is completed, finish your summer assignment by completing four of the reading response questions that follow.



Due Date: The work you complete for this assignment should be turned in to Mrs. Freeman (Rm. 202) during the first week of school.

Text Analysis of The Boy of the Painted Cave

Use the chart below to gather important cultural details about these prehistoric people. You should find three details for each category of culture in the left-hand column.

	Page Numbers	Text Citations (Write the phrase or sentence directly from the text.)
Information Related to the Work Done by Members of the Clan	* * *	* * *
Information Related to the Shelter or Food of the Clan	* * *	* * *
Information Related to the Tools Used by the Clan	* * *	* * *
Information about How Members of the Clan Used Nature for Their Benefit	* * * *	* * *

Information Related to Traditions or Ceremonies Celebrated by the Clan	*	*
	*	*
	*	*

Reading Response Assignment

After completing the text analysis of **The Boy of the Painted Cave**, respond to ***four*** of the reading response questions listed below. Use the page that follows to record your answers.

- Your response should show in-depth understanding of the reading. *Make sure you have a clear understanding of the book before responding to the questions.*
- Each response should be at least 5-7 sentences.
- Make sure you are specific and include *evidence from the text* when answering these questions!
- The quotation should support your answer. Include the page number with the quotation.
- Responses should include character names so the reader knows who “he” or “she” is!

1. Who is the main character and what is he or she like? Describe the character’s personality, feelings, interests, and behaviors.
2. What is the central problem the protagonist (main character) faces? How does he/she solve the problem?
3. Describe the setting of the book. Include the evidence from the text that helped you determine where and when the book is set.
4. Describe the most important event in the book. Explain why this event is the *most important*.
5. Which character has gone through the biggest change in the book and why?
6. What is the theme the author wants the reader to get from this text?
7. How do the minor characters affect the main character?
8. What events and people cause the main character to change?

Question # _____

Question # _____

Question # _____

Question # _____
