
Touching Spirit Bear Study Guide Key

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Encounters with the White
Bear of the Western
Rainforest Candlewick Press
When guerrilla soldiers strike
Santiago's village, they
destroy everything in their

path -- including his home and family. Santiago and his four-year-old sister escape, running for their lives. But the only way they can be truly safe is to leave Guatemala behind forever. So Santiago and Angelina set sail in a sea kayak their Uncle Ramos built while dreaming of his own escape. Sailing through narrow channels guarded by soldiers, shark-infested waters, and days of painful heat and raging storms, Santiago and Angelina face an almost impossible voyage hundreds

of miles across the open ocean, heading for the hope of a new life in the United States. Magic by the Lake Harper Collins First published in 1992, *The Imaginary Indian* is a revealing history of the "Indian" image mythologized by popular Canadian culture since 1850, propagating stereotypes that exist to this day. Images of First Nations people have always been fundamental to Canadian culture. From the paintings and photographs of the 19th

century to the Mounted Police sagas and the spectacle of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show; from the performances of Pauline Johnson, Grey Owl, and Buffalo Long Lance to the media images of Oka and the Vancouver Winter Olympics?the Imaginary Indian is ever with us, oscillating throughout our history from friend to foe, from Noble Savage to bloodthirsty warrior, from debased alcoholic to wise elder, from monosyllabic "squaw" to eloquent princess, from enemy of progress to

protector of the environment. The Imaginary Indian has been, and continues to be—as Daniel Francis reveals in this book—just about anything the non-Native culture has wanted it to be; and the contradictory stories non-Natives tell about Imaginary Indians are really stories about themselves and the uncertainties that make up their cultural heritage. This is not a book about Native people; it is the story of the images projected upon Native people—and the desperate uses to which they are put. This new edition, published

almost twenty years after the book's first release, includes a new preface and afterword by the author. Daniel Francis is an award-winning historian and the author of twenty books.

White Lilacs Gale, Cengage Learning
Considered by many the greatest war novel of all time, *All Quiet on the Western Front* is Erich Maria Remarque's masterpiece of the German experience during World War I. I am young, I am twenty years

old; yet I know nothing of life but despair, death, fear, and fatuous superficiality cast over an abyss of sorrow. . . . This is the testament of Paul Bäumer, who enlists with his classmates in the German army during World War I. They become soldiers with youthful enthusiasm. But the world of duty, culture, and progress they had been taught breaks in pieces under the first bombardment in the trenches. Through years

of vivid horror, Paul holds fast to a single vow: to fight against the principle of hate that meaninglessly pits young men of the same generation but different uniforms against one another . . . if only he can come out of the war alive. “The world has a great writer in Erich Maria Remarque. He is a craftsman of unquestionably first rank, a man who can bend language to his will. Whether he writes of men or of inanimate nature, his

touch is sensitive, firm, and sure.”—The New York Times Book Review
Ghost of Spirit Bear
David Van Leeuwen
Crime victims have many needs, most of which our criminal justice system ignores. In fact, the justice system often increases the injury. Howard Zehr proposes a "restorative" model which is more consistent with experience, with the past, and with the biblical tradition.

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Religion 121-122

Harpercollins Childrens Books

When 13-year-old Josh runs away to the mountains of Montana with an orphaned bear cub destined for laboratory testing, they both must fight for their lives in a sudden snowstorm.

The Half-a-Moon Inn Harper Collins

Newbery Medal winner Sharon Creech's inspired novel tells the story of a boy who fantasizes about who he is in order to discover who he will

become. Now with fresh and gorgeous new cover art, this touching tale has received many starred reviews, and was called a "warm, funny, philosophical novel" by Kirkus Reviews. With the backdrop of a large family and a theater as its frame, this is a story about twelve-year-old Leo, who has a talent for transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary. That's why he's called "fog boy." He's always dreaming, always replaying things in his brain. As an actor in the school play, he is poised and ready for the curtain to open. But in the play that is his life, he is eager

to discover what part will be his. With the universal theme of finding one's true identity, and set amid a loud, noisy, memorable family, Leo's story is one that all kids will relate to. And there's a full play at the end of the book that kids and teachers can perform!

All Quiet on the Western Front
Feiwel & Friends

When falling crop prices threaten his family with starvation, fifteen-year-old Victor Flores heads north in an attempt to "cross the wire" from Mexico into the United States so he can find work and send money home. But with no

coyote money to pay the smugglers who sneak illegal workers across the border, Victor must struggle to survive as he jumps trains, stows away on trucks, and hikes grueling miles through the Arizona desert. Victor's journey is fraught with danger, freezing cold, scorching heat, hunger, and dead ends. It's a gauntlet run by millions attempting to cross the border. Through Victor's often desperate struggle, Will Hobbs brings to life one of the great human dramas of our time.

Petey (new cover) arsenal
pulp press

Eric is the new kid in seventh grade. Griffin wants to be his friend. When you're new in town, it's hard to know who to hang out with—and who to avoid. Griffin seems cool, confident, and popular. But something isn't right about Griffin. He always seems to be in the middle of bad things. And if Griffin doesn't like you, you'd better watch your back. There might be a target on it. As Eric gets drawn deeper into Griffin's dark world, he begins to see the truth about Griffin: he's a liar, a bully, a thief. Eric

wants to break away, do the right thing. But in one shocking moment, he goes from being a bystander . . . to the bully's next victim. This title has Common Core connections.

Content-area Writing

Heinemann Educational Books
They call Gabriela Tree Girl. Gabi climbs trees to be within reach of the eagles and watch the sun rise into an empty sky. She is at home among the outstretched branches of the Guatemalan forests. Then one day from the safety of a tree, Gabi witnesses the sights and sounds of an unspeakable massacre. She vows to be Tree Girl no more and joins

the hordes of refugees struggling to reach the Mexican border. She has lost her whole family; her entire village has been wiped out. Yet she clings to the hope that she will be reunited with her youngest sister, Alicia. Over dangerous miles and months of hunger and thirst, Gabriela's search for Alicia and for a safe haven becomes a search for self. Having turned her back on her own identity, can she hope to claim a new life? Ages 12+

Bringing Reading to Life

Stenhouse Pub

In 1921 in Dillon, Texas, twelve-year-old Rose Lee sees trouble threatening her black community when the whites

decide to take the land there for a park and forcibly relocate the black families to an ugly stretch of territory outside the town.

Red Midnight Everyman's Library

An American classic about four children who discover that the lake by their summer house is full of magic. They find themselves awash with enchantment as they embark on a summer full of magical adventures including outwitting pirates and giving a helping hand to explorers in the North Pole.

The Imaginary Indian Perfection Learning

When Ms. Adolf hurts her back in a tango contest and goes on longterm leave, Mr. Rock (the music teacher) is called in as the sub. Hank is psyched . . . until Mr. Rock suggests that Hank attend an after-school reading program, which means he'll miss tae kwon do. But when Hank gets a crush on a girl in the reading program, and when Mr. Rock says that instead of writing his autobiography (a class assignment), Hank can present his life in scrapbook form, well . . . life's looking good. Then Hank finds out that his crush is actually the cousin of his nemesis, McKelty! Readers will love Hank's newest adventure, plus they will adore reading Hank's

scrapbook, which includes black-and-white photos of his school and neighborhood, newspaper clippings, memorabilia, and more!

Crossing the Wire Scholastic Inc.

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important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

Simon and Schuster

Aaron has never left alone before.

He is mute, and depends on his mother for everything. But

tomorrow Aaron will be twelve years old, old enough to stay

home by himself while his mother goes to town. Everything will be

fine, as long as he stays close to the house. And if there's trouble,

Aaron can write what he needs to say. Trouble there is aplenty.

When a terrible blizzard keeps his mother from returning home,

Aaron sets out to search for her—but he stumbles upon the

mysterious Half-a-Moon Inn,

where the crafty Miss Grackle forces him to work for her. How can Aaron stop her from carrying out her devilish schemes—before it's too late?

Enter at Your Own Risk

Harper Collins

As traditional Aboriginal justice concepts move to the

forefront of public consciousness, Ben

Mikaelsen's *Touching Spirit*

Bear offers a timely account of a troubled 15-year-old-boy

who finds himself banished by a sentencing circle to a remote

Alaskan island. Created for use with *Touching Spirit Bear*, this

novel study examines

sentencing circles, traditional

Aboriginal justice, and the youth Criminal Justice Act. A Novel Penguin

The groundbreaking and widely praised novel about a school shooting, from the acclaimed author of *Monster*. Multiple narratives, a personal journal, and newspaper and police reports add perspective and pull readers into the story. "Questions of guilt and innocence drive the plot and stay with the reader," said Hazel Rochman in a starred Booklist review. "Highly readable." "A haunting story that uncovers the pain of several high school students,"

according to Teenreads.com. "It explores the tragedies of school violence and how the result of bullying can go to the most dramatic extreme. Myers has a gift for expressing the voices of his characters. *Shooter* is not a light read, but it will leave you reeling."

Touching Spirit Bear Simon and Schuster

Sethe, an escaped slave living in post-Civil War Ohio with her daughter and mother-in-law, is haunted persistently by the ghost of the dead baby girl whom she sacrificed, in a new edition

of the Nobel Laureate's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. 25,000 first printing.

I Am Malala Study Guide Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Essentially a complete teacher's manual for the novel, this LitPlan Teacher Pack includes lesson plans and reproducible resource materials for *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikalesen. It includes: Daily Lessons, Short answer study questions, Multiple choice quiz questions, Vocabulary worksheets for each reading assignment, 3 detailed writing assignments, Individual and group activities, Critical thinking discussion questions, 5 unit tests (2 short answer, 2

multiple choice, 1 advanced),
Evaluation forms, Review puzzles
& games, Bulletin board ideas,
Reproducible student materials,
and more!

Eggs Hyperion

After his anger erupts into
violence, Cole, in order to avoid
going to prison, agrees to
participate in a sentencing
alternative based on the native
American Circle Justice, and he is
sent to a remote Alaskan Island
where an encounter with a huge
Spirit Bear changes his life.

*Book of Mormon Student
Manual* Harper Collins

In his Nautilus Award-
winning classic *Touching
Spirit Bear*, author Ben

Mikaelson delivers a
powerful coming-of-age
story of a boy who must
overcome the effects that
violence has had on his life.
After severely injuring Peter
Driscall in an empty parking
lot, mischief-maker Cole
Matthews is in major trouble.
But instead of jail time, Cole
is given another option:
attend Circle Justice, an
alternative program that
sends juvenile offenders to a
remote Alaskan Island to
focus on changing their
ways. Desperate to avoid
prison, Cole fakes humility

and agrees to go. While there,
Cole is mauled by a
mysterious white bear and
left for dead. Thoughts of his
abusive parents, helpless
Peter, and his own anger
cause him to examine his
actions and seek
redemption—from the spirit
bear that attacked him, from
his victims, and, most
importantly, from himself.
Ben Mikaelson paints a vivid
picture of a juvenile offender,
examining the roots of his
anger without absolving him
of responsibility for his
actions, and questioning a

society in which angry people make victims of their peers and communities. *Touching Spirit Bear* is a poignant testimonial to the power of a pain that can destroy, or lead to healing. A strong choice for independent reading, sharing in the classroom, homeschooling, and book groups.