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GIRL WITH A SABRETOOTH TIGER

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CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

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Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
1	- Which tribe is Swallow from? - Give three examples of things the storyteller sings about. - Why was Swallow so interested in the songs about the jadeite stone? - How can people gain access to the jadeite stone? - Explain why Swallow wants the jadeite. - How can you tell that the sabretooth necklace is precious to Swallow?	Create a fact file for one of the extinct animals mentioned in the chapter.	SCIENCE: Research some of the extinct animals that Swallow mentions in this chapter. What do we know about them?
2	- How does the way Swallow lives now differ to how her Mum used to live? - How did growing wheat and peas improve things for the tribe? - What does the storyteller do to show she is ready to begin? - Look at page 18. Find and copy a word that means 'dangerous'.		ART/DRAMA: How did homes and settlements change throughout the prehistoric period? Compare examples from the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age.
3	- Why did people think Swallow wouldn't make a good seeker? - How do people honour the warriors after death? - Explain why Ma holds Swallow tighter when she mentions wanting to be a seeker.		HISTORY: Research how tools changed throughout the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age. Based on the information in this chapter, where on the



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	Give one example why Swallow believes she is strong enough to be a seeker.		timeline do you think this is taking place and why?
4	- Look at the first two paragraphs of the chapter. Find and copy evidence that shows Swallow was frightened by her dream. - How can people request protection for the living from the Goddess? - What did the goddess accept from Swallow? - Suggest why the goddess rejected the grey feather.		ART: Create a piece of artwork to show what a river goddess may look like. You can use any material you wish to create it.
5	- How can you tell that Swallow cares about her baby sister? - Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Swallow is proud when her mum says she is good. - How did Swallow's parents decide on her name? - How does Swallow reassure herself that Bear will be fine whilst she is gone?		
6	- How has Swallow marked her tools as belonging to her? - What impression do you get of Ishi from this chapter? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. - How does Swallow prepare for her journey? Give two ways. - Why is Swallow emotional when she thinks about trading her bracelet?	Imagine that Swallow was able to leave a letter to her parents telling them where she was going and why. Write the letter from her perspective.	HISTORY: Research jewellery and decorative items in the Stone Age. What do your findings tell us about people at the time?



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7	- Why does the storyteller light sage and throw it after the seekers? - How is the goddess moon helping Swallow on her journey? <i>There'll be more than reed-scratching to put up with on this journey.</i> What do you think Swallow means by this? - Give two reasons why Swallow believes she is a good boat builder. - Who do you think finds Swallow at the end of the chapter? Explain why you think this.	Continue the story based on the end of the chapter. Who do you think it is? What will Swallow do? Will Swallow still go on her journey?	
8	- How did Ishi know that Swallow was going somewhere? - How can you tell that Swallow was reluctant to tell Ishi where she was going? - What do you think the word 'clod' means? - How did Swallow 'chase off her grumpiness'? What does this suggest about the relationship between Swallow and Ishi? - Why doesn't Swallow drop Ishi off further down the river like planned?		
9	- How does having Ishi in the boat make the journey more difficult for Swallow? - Find and copy two pieces of evidence that shows Ishi is scared of the journey to come. - What was the offering that Ishi gave to the river goddess?		HISTORY: Research what historians know about how people travelled during the prehistoric period. Have artefacts been found? What does this suggest about people during this time?



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10	- How long did the journey to the end of the river take? - Give two reasons why Swallow thinks they have been lucky. - Suggest why Swallow might feel excited but also scared when she reaches the sea. - How has the water changed compared to when they were on the river? - Where do Swallow and Ishi leave the small boat? - How do Swallow and Ishi manage to convince the man to take them on his boat?		
11	- At what time of day do Swallow and Ishi get on the boat? - Why is Swallow grateful that Ishi is with her on the journey? - Look at page 68. Find and copy a word that means 'special'. <i>The boat rocks like an acorn falling to earth.</i> How does this simile help the reader understand the movement of the boat? - Look at page 69. Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Swallow was gripping the oar tightly. - What is the role of the woman from the beach in the yellow robe?	Imagine that Swallow writes a letter home to her parents to describe her journey so far. Write what she might say, ensuring to think carefully about the feelings she might include.	



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12	- What do you think the woman's impression of Swallow is? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. - How can you tell that Ishi is tired from the journey? - What payment did Ishi receive for his work with the pigs? - Find and copy evidence that shows Ishi does not feel confident in himself. - How is the sand different to the shoreline when they boarded the boat? - Look at page 76. Give two ways Swallow knew the man was angry. - Where have Swallow and Ishi decided to rest?		PSHE: Swallow talks about Ishi becoming her friend. Do you think he is already her friend? What qualities make a good friend? Create a poster.
13	- Why does Swallow 'startle' when she wakes up? - Where had Ishi been? - Look at page 80. Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Swallow and Ishi were hungry. - Where do Swallow and Ishi decide to rest next? - Why did Swallow and Ishi not hear the hooves?	What might happen next? Continue the story using the end of the chapter to help you predict what might happen.	
14	- Look at page 82. Find and copy a word that means 'rough in texture'. <i>Exploding through me like lightning.</i> What does this suggest about Swallow's fear?		



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	- Look at page 83. Find and copy a word that shows Swallow dislikes the men on the horses. - How do you think Swallow feels at the end of the chapter? Give two different emotions using evidence from the text to explain why you think this.		
15	- How does their camp differ to the one Swallow lives in? - Why did Swallow test the tightness of the rope? - The other children in the camp 'gawk' at Swallow and Ishi. What does this mean? What does it show about the children's experiences? <i>Ma waking to feed her, and Pa looking grave.</i> What does the word 'grave' mean in this context? - Look at page 89. How can you tell the woman likes Swallow's sabretooth necklace?	Write a short speech from Swallow's perspective, attempting to persuade the tribe to let Swallow and Ishi go.	
16	- How is Swallow preparing for her escape? - Explain how Swallow knows what the animals are, despite never seeing them in person. - Why is the woman kinder to Swallow now? - How did the storm help Swallow with her plan? - Explain why Swallow would want to stop Ishi from shouting.		



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17	- Give two reasons why the horse is moving so quickly. - Look at page 97. What is the meaning of the word 'convenience' in this context? - Do you agree with Swallow that Ishi was brave? Explain why you think this. - Do you agree with Ishi that Swallow is clever? Explain why you think this. - Suggest why Swallow and Ishi would avoid the camps along the river.		
18	- Give three symptoms Swallow is experiencing with her illness. - How did Ishi know something was wrong? - Why was Ishi so worried about Swallow and her fever? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. - Look at page 102. Find and copy a word that shows the rocks were heavy.		HISTORY: Research how illnesses were treated at different periods of time throughout history. Create a timeline of information.
19	- Why is Swallow glad she has found somewhere cold to rest her head? - What does the word 'hurls' suggest about how the ice chips are hitting Swallow? - How can you tell that the sabretooth tiger cares for Swallow? Give three ways.	What do you think Ishi was doing during Swallow's fever? How do you think he felt? Write a chapter from his perspective.	HISTORY: What cave paintings have archaeologists found? What do they tell us about people at the time? ART: Create your own version of a cave painting.



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	- What is the 'fire-breathing monster' that the tiger refers to? - For what reason does the sabretooth tiger believe Swallow has to 'return to earth'?		
20	- Explain why Ishi was frightened when Swallow was suffering from her fever. - Give three examples of other animals that Swallow finds on the wall. - Look at page 110. Find and copy a word that shows the cave was a special place. - How long has Swallow been asleep? - How has Ishi proven that he is a good friend? Use evidence from the text. - Why does Swallow doubt that jadeite is real?		
21	- Look at page 114. Find and copy a word that means to complain about and disagree with something. - How has Ishi changed compared to when he first started the journey with Swallow? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. <i>Without him, I would have withered and died in that cave.</i> What does the word 'withered' mean in this context? <i>But then I see them - the mountains!</i> What does this show about how Swallow feels?		SCIENCE: Create a diagram that shows the different phases of the moon and explain why these changes happen. GEOGRAPHY: Can you locate the mountains of the UK on a map?



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	- For how long have they been travelling? - How does Swallow's description of feeling like a tiny ant help the reader?		
22	- Look at page 121. Find and copy three words that the author uses to show how shiny and bright the mountain is. - How does Swallow feel when she realizes how high up she is? - Look at page 124. Find and copy a word that means 'covered'. - Give one way Swallow and Ishi could still be hurt on the mountain.		
23	- Look at page 126. How does the author make the protectors of the mountain seem intimidating? - How can you tell that Swallow is getting upset when talking about her baby sister? - Why did the protectors decide Swallow could attempt to get the jadeite? - Do you think Swallow will continue without Ishi? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text.	Write a persuasive speech from Swallow's perspective, convincing the protectors to allow Ishi to travel with her into the mountain.	
24	- What did the protectors do to give Swallow their blessing? Give three things. - What caused the grumble that Swallow heard?		



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	- How can you tell that Swallow is nervous about entering the cave? - Why will it get more difficult for Swallow to travel through the mountain the longer she waits? - What encourages Swallow to continue when she is finding it difficult to carry on? - How can you tell Swallow is trying to be respectful when taking the jadeite?		
25	- How do you think Swallow feels now that she has got the jadeite? - What is the meaning of the word 'dwindling' in this context? - What causes Swallow to trip into the water? <i>Grasping for the side ...</i> What does the word 'grasping' suggest about how Swallow is feeling?		SCIENCE: Research the jadeite stone. What type of rock is it? What are its properties?
26	- What does the elder's actions suggest about her as a person? Use evidence to support your answer. - What is unique about umbratal? - Look at page 147. Find and copy a word that shows the protectors were amazed by Swallow's piece of jadeite. - Why do you think Ishi has reacted this way to Swallow and the piece of jadeite?	Create an information text about jadeite stone.	PSHE: If Ishi is upset, do you think his reactions towards Swallow are okay? What can we do if we are feeling angry or upset? How should we deal with these feelings?



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27	- What does Swallow's decision to return for Ishi show about her character? - Look at page 153. How can you tell that Ishi has been crying? - What does Swallow do to show her appreciation for Ishi's help on her journey? - Do you agree with Swallow that they are both brave and kind? Explain why using evidence from the text.		
28	- How do Swallow and Ishi manage to get passage on a boat? - What does Swallow have to do once they arrive after the crossing to ensure they make the journey down the river safely? - How is the tree different compared to when Swallow left? What does this suggest about the time of year? - Give two examples of sounds Swallow hears as she approaches the camp. - How can you tell Swallow's parents are glad she is home? - What does Swallow mean when she asks whether Bear 'has flown'?		SCIENCE: Research the jadeite stone. What type of rock is it? What are its properties?
29	- How long has it taken for the tribe to get to the sacred stones? - Why have Swallow and Ishi not told their story yet?	Create a persuasive leaflet for Stonehenge. Why should people visit it?	HISTORY: What is the significance of Stone Henge? Create a fact file.



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	- How does Swallow get the attention of the others before starting her story? - Explain why Swallow and Ishi become shy when it is time to tell their story.		
30	- Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Ishi is proud to be telling the story. - Look at page 167. Find and copy a word that means 'dangerous'. - Why would the other tribe members be looking at the jadeite in wonder and awe? - How can you tell that the winter solstice is a happy occasion?	Write your own short story version of Swallow and Ishi's journey to share with somebody else.	

