

The Winter People Internet Activity by Cindy O'Hora

Based on the novel *The Winter People* by Joseph Bruchac

<http://www.mrsoshouse.com/ext/winpeo.html>

Directions: Click on the link to go to a web site with the answer to the question. Use the Go Menu of your browser, to return to this web page.

1. This novel is a work of historical fiction. In 1981, [Gordon Day researched the events of Rogers' Raid](#). Review Day's information. Write 5 facts that were told by Bruchac in the story and are verified by Day.

2. At the dance, musicians used several kinds of instruments. Write 3 characteristics of the music of the native people of the Northeast.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. At the beginning of Chapter 10, Saxso talks about time keeping with the church bells and a clock. Use the resources in A Walk Through Time to identify the kind of time keeping device the priest probably used.

Read the first paragraph under "The World's Time Zones". How many time zones would a person from France have to cross to reach New England?

Name a way (other than a clock) that you keep time.

4. A birch bark canoe was a vital tool for Saxso to use to save his family. Bruchac does an exceptional job of describing its appearance and construction. View this [photo of a birch bark canoe](#). Write a paragraph describing it.

5. Saxso tells of many ways the Abenaki people used plants. How might they have used the [Black Cohosh](#) plant?

Name another plant used by native americans for healing. How was it used? _____

6. Many times during the story a folk tale or legend is used to teach a lesson. Read one of these Native American tales. What is the lesson it teaches?

Name of the tale/ legend read: _____

Lesson taught: _____

7. Vocabulary - Use this online dictionary to find the meaning of the following words

Epidemic _____

Concealment _____

Stealthily _____

Talisman _____

8. TIA (Think about it)- Who were the winter people? _____

Why did Saxso call them that? _____

9. In your opinion, what makes Joseph Bruchac highly qualified to write this story.

10. During the 1600 to 1800's Indian populations were decimated by epidemics. How did this happen?

11. Bruchac uses literary devices to paint a vivid picture of events in the book. For example: he described Great Simon being shot ... "His body became limp as a deer when an arrow has cut its breath." p. 47

This is an example of which literary device? A Simile / a Metaphor / Personification

Calculated to challenge - How many books by this author does your school library offer?

Check it out - How many books about Native Americans does your library have?

What percentage of the library's Native American books were written by Bruchac?

"Most battles are lost before the fighting ever begins." Pierre Ktsi Awasos