

Island of the Blue Dolphin

By Scott O'Dell

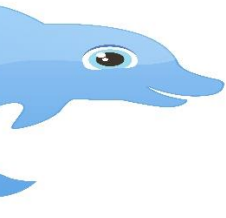
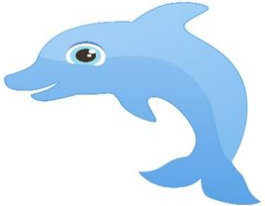
Please don't read the Introduction first – wait until the end

Pre-reading Question:

Would you like to live on an island? What do you think this story will be about?

Chapter 1:

1. What do you know about Karana and Ramo's character traits or personalities?
Complete the chart below to the best of your ability:

Ramo's Character Traits	Karana's Character Traits
	

2. Are there ANY similarities between Ramo and Karana's personalities?

3. Who are the Aleuts? _____

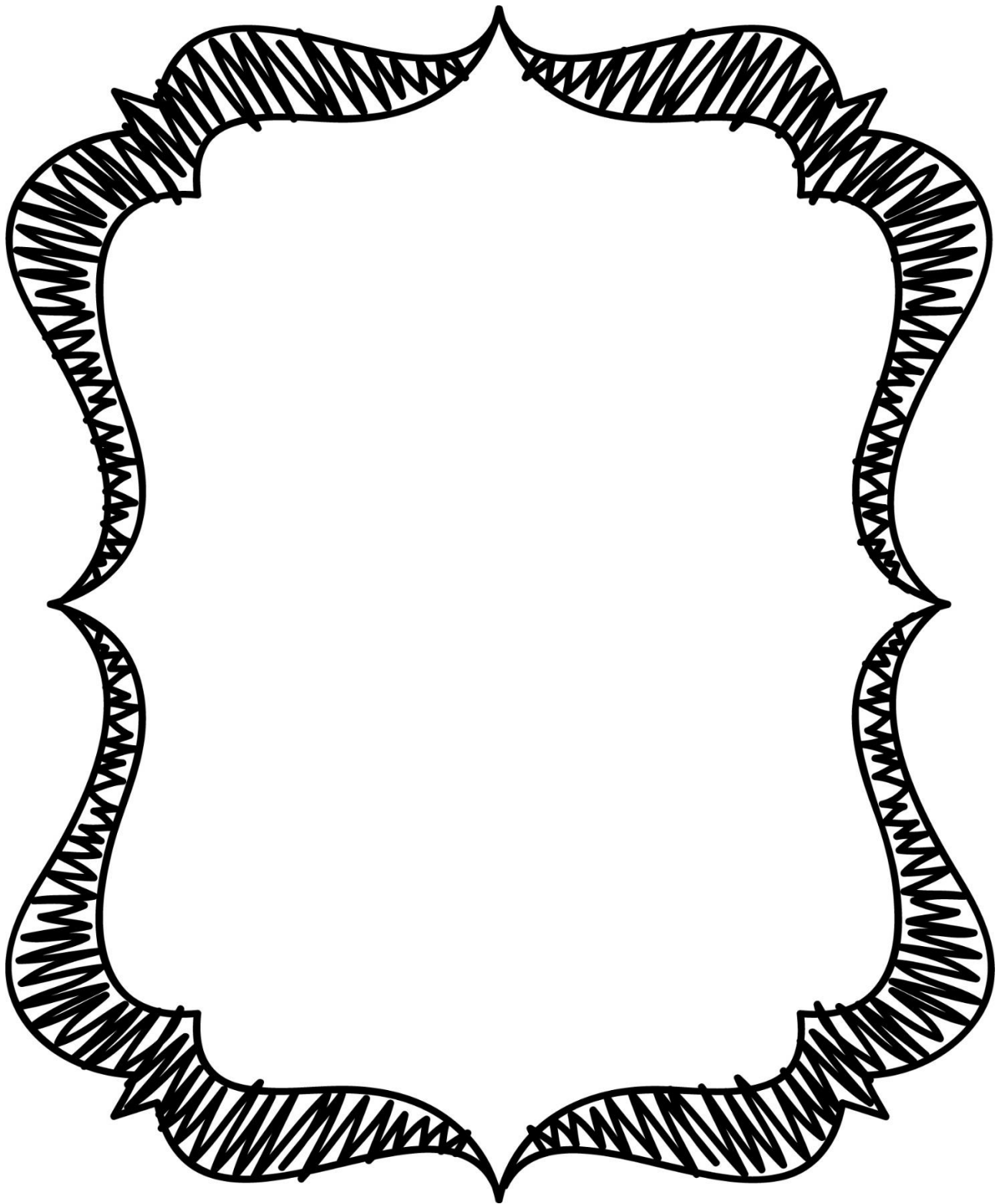
4. Is Karana a responsible person? _____

Define and write sentences for the following vocabulary words:

1.) ceasing _____

2.) cormorants _____

She is referred to as ***The Girl with the Long Black Hair.***
Draw your best picture of Karana.



Chapter 2:

1. Why do you think Chief Chowig allowed the Aleuts on the island? Are the islanders happy or are they feeling unsure about this?

2. Do you think there could be potential danger ? _____

3. What does it mean to befall good fortune? _____

4. How do you think the Aleuts “befell good fortune” while camping on the island? _____

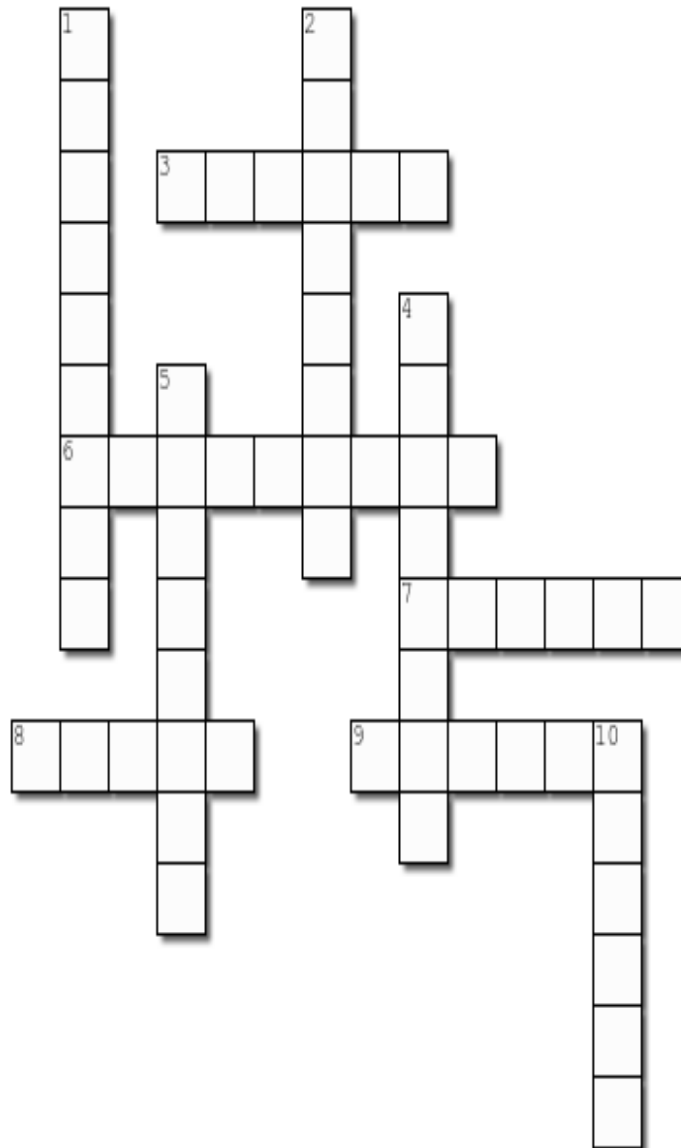
Chapter 3:

1. Why isn't the Chief worried the Aleuts will kill too many sea otter?

2. Why do you think Karana's father is making a new spear?

3. Everyone was wondering if the Aleuts would pay for their fair share of the killings since they camped on the island....however no one wanted to ask. Why do you think that is?

Complete the crossword puzzle below.



Created using TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Maker](#)

Across

- 3. to make money or gain something
- 6. in a restricted or infrequent manner; in small quantities
- 7. untidily scattered
- 8. kill violently
- 9. fell upon or happened

Down

- 1. the remains, skeleton, or scattered bones of animals
- 2. act as a friend to (someone) by offering help, support, or guidance.
- 4. shiny as a result of being rubbed sometimes with a cloth
- 5. preparations, action or process of working hard
- 10. the end of rocks or cliffs

Chapter 4:

1. Ulape and Karana watch the terrible event unfold – what is happening?

2. What caused the Russian Aleuts and natives to begin fighting and killing?

3. “Looking at his body I knew he should not have told Captain Orlov his secret name.” What does Karana mean by this and how is she feeling? (p. 23)

Chapter 5:

1. There was NO woman on the island that did NOT lose a father, son, or brother. What did the natives do with the bodies of the Aleuts?

2. After time passes from the traumatic event what is the atmosphere or morale like on the island?

3. Kimki delegates the task of gathering _____ to Ulape and Karana? What task did Ramo do after the items were gathered?

“fairing better” what does that mean?

Use context clues...what do you think “shirkers” means?

Chapter 6:

1. We were fearful of where we were going, yet we were also happy, too. Where do you think the natives will go?
2. What items did Karana pack?

What do you think “ponder” means?

Chapter 7:

1. What would you have done if a loved one was left behind on an island?
2. Would you have jumped off as Karana did?
3. How can you tell that Ramo is thankful and so glad that Karana came back?

Using context clues determine what “forlorn” means. (Page 38)

Chapter 8:

1. Karana loves her brother dearly. Provide evidence to support or prove this.
2. Karana and her younger brother Ramo are the only ones left on the island. How would you feel if you were on an empty island with only one other person?

Chapter 9:

1. Make a prediction about whether you think Karana will be able to survive? Why or why not?
2. Karana's tribe had a rule that women were not permitted to make weapons (page 49). Karana is still complying with these rules even though she fears for her life. What does this tell you about Karana's character and values?
3. Karana will never wear the beads she considers to be so beautiful. Why do you think she tosses them? (page 51) What do the beads symbolize to her?

Chapter 10:

1. How are we aware that Karana has been alone on the island for a very long time? Use details from the text to provide support.
2. Would you rather be rescued or take your chances in the canoe?

Chapter 11:

1. After all of Karana's misfortune and overwhelming circumstances it says that Karana is "filled with happiness." How can she feel joy if she is alone on the island? (page 65) Why does she sing (on page 69)?
2. What do you think the words "brackish" and "headland" mean?

Chapter 12:

1. Find one way the author shows the passing of time within the chapter.
2. Do you think Karana would want to kill the wild dogs if they had not killed Ramo? Why or why not?
3. Why does Karana want to kill the bull sea otter?

Chapter 13:

1. How did Karana choose the bull to kill?

Chapter 14:

Do you think Karana is intelligent? Why or why not? (Use details from the story to prove.) How did Karana hurt her leg? Do you think that her being wounded will put her at a disadvantage with the wild dogs or do you think she will heal her own wounds and survive?

Chapter 15:

Why is the pack of wild dogs much larger now than Karana expected or had ever seen before? Why do you think the young new dogs would be more wild than the old dogs that Karana is accustomed to?

Chapter 16:

How has Karan and Rontu's relationship changed so drastically. Is it wise to trust Rontu at this point?

Chapter 17:

Why did Rontu go out and fight the wild dogs instead of just staying in the house with Karana? What would have happened if Rontu lost or did not fight at all?

Chapter 18:

Why does Karana name her birds Lurai and Tainor? What would you name two birds as a pet?

Chapter 19:

Why do you think the author spends time writing about the indigenous creatures of the island? Also, it was a tremendous amount of work to capture the devilfish. Do you think she only wanted the devilfish for food or was killing the devilfish more symbolic for her?

Define ***indigenous***. Use it in your own sentence.

Chapter 20:

Who do you think is on the ship? Do you think Karana is finally going to be rescued?

Chapter 21:

Karana is afraid the young girl will find her. Why does she fear this?
(page 128)

Chapter 22:

Why does Karana tell Tutok her secret name since she believes it brings about bad luck? What does her name mean? What does your name mean?

Chapter 23:

Karana and Tutok form a fairly strong bond even though there is a language difference / barrier. Is it possible? Why does Karana spend time with Tutok after what the Aleuts did to Karana's family?

Find a vocabulary word in this chapter you don't know and look it up.

Chapter 24:

Why do you think Karana has decided to not kill animals anymore?

Chapter 25:

Why did Karana stop counting moons?

Chapter 26:

Think about this, how has Karana changed over time from being a girl with the tribe to a woman alone on the island? Make a prediction, what do you think will happen to Karana?

Chapter 27:

Karana said "the earth moved." What does this mean?

Chapter 28:

Do you think that Karana being overly cautious is a good thing or a bad thing?

Chapter 29:

Karana is finally saved! Do you think she is happy or is this a bittersweet moment? Maybe it's both bitter and sweet!

What did you think of the story?