

## **Sign of the Beaver Chapter Questions**

### **Chapter 1 & 2**

1. What state did Matt and his father move from and to which state did they move?

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2. Why did Matt make notches on the stick his father had given him?

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3. What 2 gifts did Matt's father give him before he left?

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4. Although the cabin was finished, his father had left him with one endless task necessary to finish the cabin completely. What was that task?

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### **Chapter 3**

1. What warnings does the author give that Ben is going to make trouble?

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2. What could Matt have done to prevent the unfortunate ending to the encounter with Ben?

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3. Why was the loss of the gun so serious?

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### **Chapter 4 & 5**

1. Matt made two mistakes that limited his food supply. What were they?

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2. Why did Matt decide to get the honey?

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3. Find words or phrases that paint a mental picture of the bees swarming around Matt.

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4. Did the Indians act in surprising or unexpected ways? Why do you think the Indians were so kind to Matt?

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### **Chapter 6 & 7**

1. What did the Indians bring to Matt when he was recovering from the bee stings?

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2. What word did Saknis use to describe his relationship with Attean?

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3. What did Matt give to Saknis to thank him for saving his life? Why is this important?

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4. What is Matt going to teach Attean? How does the first lesson go?

**Chapter 8 & 9**

1. What did Attean means when he said, "White man not smart like Indian. Indian not need thing from ship." ?

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2. List 4 things Robinson Crusoe had found on his ship that could have been useful?

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3. What was the first sign that Attean gave that he could be a little friendly?

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4. Why did Atten continue to bring food to Matt even after he could catch his own?

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**Chapter 10 & 11**

1. What did Attean teach Matt about fishing?

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2. What did Attean do when he threw the fish back? What did it mean to him?

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3. How did Matt know it was well into August?

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4. Describe Attean's dog?

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5. What does Attean teach Matt when he takes him into the woods?

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## **Chapter 10 & 11 continued**

6. What does a beaver slapping his tail on water sound like?

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7. What does a beaver sign on a tree mean to an Indian?

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8. How are Attean and Matt like Robinson Crusoe and Friday?

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## **Chapter 12 -14**

1. How was the bow that Attean and Matt made better than the one that Matt made?  
How does Matt feel about the bow?

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2. How did Matt feel about the Indian code that left an animal to suffer just because of a mark on a tree?

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3. Make a list of things that Matt learned from Attean?

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## **Chapter 15 & 16**

1. Why did Attean talk to the dead bear?

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## **Chapter 15 & 16 continued**

2. How did Matt help Attean kill the bear? Was this a way for Matt to earn respect? (p74)

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3. What jobs did Attean think were sqaw work?

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4. Why was Matt invited to the Indian feast? Do you think Attean gave him credit for the victory over the bear?

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## **Chapter 17 & 18**

1. Why did Attean's grandmother not want Matt to be at the feast?

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2. Do you think Matt will be given another chance to visit the Indian village again? Why does he want to go back?

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3. Why do you think Matt tried to save Attean's dog?

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4. How did Attean's grandmother who approval of Matt?

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## **Chapter 19 - 21**

1. How did Matt earn Attean's respect?

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2. How did Attean prepare himself for his manitou?

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3. Compare and contrast how Attean looked before and after finding his manitou.

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## **Chapter 22 & 23**

1. What gifts did Attean bring Matt from his family?

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2. Which do you think was more difficult to give - Attean's dog to Matt or Matt's watch to Attean?

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3. Matt stayed busy preparing for winter? What did he do to prepare?

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## **Chapter 24 & 25**

1. Why was Matt's family late in getting to him? What happened to the baby his mother had been pregnant with when he left?

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**Chapter 24 & 25 (continued)**

2. In what ways was Matt's life while his parents were gone like Attean's finding his manitou?

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3. How is the ending of the story bittersweet for Matt?

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4. If you could would you keep the ending the same or change it? If you'd change it, how would you end the story?

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