

I sing Dad's song as I skin the bear and realise I miss him more than ever.

At least I have found Dog now.

We were shocked to come across a bear.

I had a delicious feast of ants and dandelions.

We slept in a cave with strange painting on the walls.

Dog and I watched as the others performed the Ritual.

I have to admit that I was clever to outwit that bear.

I'm cold, covered in mud and my head is splitting.

I am starting to regret my decision to have gone off on my own.

I ran after Dog because I just did what I thought was right at the time.

I was amazed to see how that other tribe lived.

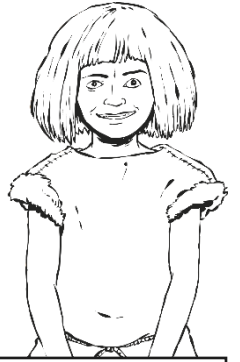
I am fed up of plucking feathers.

I was terrified and ran for my life.

Write a sentence that Bee might have written in her diary and explain which part of the story this relates to.

Part B

Imagine that Bee wrote a diary throughout the story. Write Bee's diary entry for the part of the story from when she first saw the bear to when she manages to kill it.



Describe the events that happened, but make sure you also share your thoughts and feelings as you write as Bee.

Dear Diary,

Well, today I killed a bear! Yes, I can hardly believe it myself. Let me tell you how it all started...

Challenge Task

Write an entry into Dad's diary at this point in the story (the end of Chapter 8) when he might be starting to give up hope of finding Bee after he has spent days searching for her.

Book Review Video

- Work in groups of three.
- Each person should give themselves a number: 1, 2 or 3.
- You will be taking it in turns to film the book review, ask the questions and answer the questions.
- Read the questions together first and talk about how you might answer them. You could make some notes. Then record the interview.

First Book Review

Child 1 will answer the questions.

Child 2 will choose three questions to ask from the list of questions below.

Child 3 will use a tablet or camera to film the interview.

Second Book Review

Child 1 will use a tablet or camera to film the interview.

Child 2 will answer the questions.

Child 3 will choose three questions to ask from the list of questions below.

Third Book Review

Child 1 will choose three questions to ask from the list of questions below.

Child 2 will use a tablet or camera to film the interview.

Child 3 will answer the questions.

Who was your favourite character in 'How to Skin a Bear', and why?

What was your favourite moment in the story, and why?

Who would you recommend this book to?

Does this book remind you of any other books you have read?

What didn't you like about the book?



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If you had to think of a different title for the book, what would you choose?

How many stars out of five would you give this story, and why?

What is one question you would ask the author if you could talk to them?

Would you change anything about the ending? Why, or why not?

Challenge Task

Think of your own questions to ask each other about 'How to Skin a Bear'. Record them as a bonus interview.

Character Description

Part A

Read the following statements about Bee and decide whether each one is true or false. Write a 'T' for true or an 'F' for false next to each statement. The first one has been done for you.

Statements about Bee	'T' or 'F'?
Bee loves plucking feathers.	F
Sometimes, Bee gets annoyed with Dog.	
Bee wears shoes.	
Bee thinks that dandelions are delicious.	
Bee does not believe in Sky Spirits.	
Bee uses her knowledge of what she has seen her tribe members do in the past to help herself to survive.	
Bee is unable to look after herself.	
Bee thinks about things a lot.	
Bee has been able to light a fire since she was a tiny girl.	
Bee never dreams.	
Bee cannot stand the sight of a dead animal.	
Bee is surprised that she even misses Rat.	

Part B

The word bank contains words and phrases that might be used to describe Bee. Decide which box each word or phrase should go into and write the word in.

determined	jealous	always complaining	timid
whiny	inquisitive	cheeky	triumphant
relieved	has a powerful imagination	self-confident	resentful
feisty	happy	proud	resourceful
lazy	has a sense of fun	weak	grumpy
brave	dishonest	dog-lover	feels like a true member of the tribe
loyal	resilient	ambitious	

Describes Bee well at the start of the story	Describes Bee well at the end of the story
Describes Bee well through most of the story	Does not describe Bee well at all

Comprehension

Part A

The answers to the following questions can be found in Chapter 9 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. Why does Bee have to follow the Pig Lick River? (p. 70)

2. Why does Bee wear her bearskin and mask on the first day of walking? (p. 70)

3. Why does Bee decide not to wear her bearskin and mask on the second day of walking?
Give two reasons. (p. 70-71)

a) _____

b) _____

4. Tick all the ways in which Bee mimics Rat. (p. 71)

She says things in his voice.	<input type="checkbox"/>
She makes a fire.	<input type="checkbox"/>
She falls asleep.	<input type="checkbox"/>
She bounces on her toes.	<input type="checkbox"/>
She caws like a crow.	<input type="checkbox"/>
She swings her arms.	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. How does Bee think a good idea might come to her? (p. 72)

6. Which direction do Bee and Dog walk in? (p. 72)

7. Why does Bee not believe that it is impossible to move the Rock of the Long Sun? (p. 73)

8. How do you think Bee feels just before she reveals that she is there to the tribe? (p. 76)

9. Why do you think that Rat is the only one who doesn't gasp when Bee describes how she killed the bear? (p. 78)

10. Where do the tribe decide to settle down? (p. 80)



11. Write down what you think some of the characters might be thinking in this scene.

Part B

The answers to the following questions can be found in Chapter 9 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. Which phrase tells you that Bee would like to hear her dad singing again? (p. 72)

2. Why do you think the author has chosen to repeat the phrase 'I wish'? (p. 72)

3. Which word tells you that Dog does not really believe that the tribe must be going the long way? (p. 73)

4. Why does Bee stop Dog running to lick the tribe? (p. 74)

5. a) Which word is used to describe the way that Bent Tree walks? (p. 75)

b) Can you think of a word with a similar meaning to this?

6. 'His eyes are all red and have dark circles under them.' What does this tell you about Dad? (p. 75)

7. Why does Bent Tree glare at Rat? (p. 76)

8. Why do you think one of the first things that Bee says to her dad is that she killed a bear? (p. 76)

9. Why do Bent Tree and Dad look at each other when Bee mentions the other tribe she saw? (p. 77-78)

10. What does the tribe do all night? (p. 81)

Challenge Task

Do you think that Bee will be happy to go back to plucking feathers now that she has found her tribe again? Explain your answer.

Subheadings

Part A

Read each paragraph. What is it all about? Choose a subheading to explain to the reader what the paragraph is about.

The first one has been done for you.

a) Subheading: **Introduction**

'How to Skin a Bear' is a Twinkl Original eBook. It is a fiction book set in Stone Age times so it is an ideal book to read when children are learning about the Stone Age. The book is particularly suitable for Year 3 and 4 children.

b) Subheading:

The story takes place in Stone Age times and follows the adventures of a girl called Bee. When Bee gets lost and can't find her tribe, she has to survive by herself in the forest with only her dog for company. She catches her own food, makes her own fire and navigates through the forest to find her tribe again. She even manages to kill a huge bear! At the end of the story, Bee manages to find her tribe. They feel very proud of

c) Subheading:

Bee and Dog are the main characters in the story. Bee's dad and the other members of the tribe, such as Bent Tree and Snore of the Rat, are important at the start of the book, but then we don't see them again until the end of the book. The story mainly focuses on the characters of Bee and Dog.

d) Subheading:

Names play an important part in the story. The members of Bee's tribe all have names that link to their personality. At the beginning, Bee wishes she has a name that sounds more heroic and exciting. At the end of the story, however, even though she has killed a bear and helped her tribe, she decides to keep her name. She realises that what her dad told her is true: "It is not our names that make us who we are, Bee. It is our actions."

e) Subheading:

The story takes place during the Neolithic Age. This was the period at the end of the Stone Age. During this time, people changed from living a nomadic life (where they moved from place to place to hunt for food) to living only in one place. During this period, people started to live in the same way as the strange tribe that Bee saw. They built their own homes, grew food and kept animals so they didn't need to move around to find food any more. This is a good book to read when learning about the Stone Age.

f) Write a short paragraph that would go under the subheading of 'Conclusion'. Remember – a conclusion sums up what the whole piece of writing tells you about.

Conclusion

Part B

Read this piece of writing all about Bee. Can you split this piece of writing into paragraphs by underlining each paragraph with a different colour? The first one has been done for you.

This piece of writing is all about Bee, the main character in 'How to Skin a Bear', and how her character develops throughout the story. Bee is an adventurous young girl who lives in the Stone Age. At the start of the book, Bee feels annoyed that she is only allowed to pluck feathers and that she can't try any of the other exciting jobs in the tribe. Bee often feels left out. She can act quite grumpy with her dad although it is clear that she loves him very much – and although she sometimes feels impatient with Dog, she adores him. Life changes for Bee on the night of the storm. It shows how much she cares about Dog when she runs off into the darkness to find him, disobeying her dad. When she realises she is lost, the reader finds out that Bee is not completely fearless. Although she seems afraid, she also seems stubborn when she says to herself: "But who cares about the tribe? They wanted me to leave Dog behind." In the middle of the story, when Bee and Dog are trying to find the rest of the tribe, Bee shows that she is resilient, strong-willed and able to think sensibly and calmly. She does not lose hope that they will find the tribe again. Bee can be playful and has a good sense of humour. She shows that she can learn new skills quickly that she has watched others do, such as making an axe and starting a fire, and she is resourceful in finding food for herself. The most exciting part of the book is when Bee outwits the bear. She shows that she is cunning, brave and can think quickly under pressure. At the end of the book, Bee is proud of her achievements. Her joy at being reunited with her tribe shows how important they are to her. In summary, Bee is a fascinating character who should appeal to readers because of her determination and sense of humour. It is interesting for the reader to see how her character develops

Now think of a subheading for each different paragraph that you underlined. Colour each box in to show which paragraph you mean and write a subheading for each paragraph.

You do not need to fill all the boxes in – it depends on how many paragraphs you decided to split the piece of writing into.

Paragraph	Subheading
	Introduction

Challenge Task

Plan a piece of writing about life in the Stone Age. Write down the subheadings you would include and what you would write about in each section. You could complete this activity on your whiteboard or on a blank piece of paper.