

Activities, Questions, Vocabulary (by page)

Note: Question 10 from the Anticipation Guide and highlighted questions below are also included in the separate student journal.

Page #	Question or Activity	Vocabulary
1	What do you think the Otter Frolics are? ELA 4.5i	
	What type of fish might Momma have fed the twins? ELA 4.9b	
2	Highlight suffixes in words like “swimmiest” ELA 4.4b	
	Sensory words: wet, slimy ELA 4.5g	
3	Multiple-meaning word: zip ELA 4.4a	tensed
		crouched
4	Where is the “Big Dam” in Danville? What is its real name? If you have been there or seen it, describe what it’s like. ELA 4.5h	
	Why would the water be running more quickly?	
5	Using a map of Danville and the Dan River, retrace the otter family’s route from their den (alongside the Sandy River) to the Big Dam (Schoolfield Dam). VS1i	upstream
6	Locate and/or describe the habitats of the various animals encountered in the story. Science 4.5d	
	What are webbed feet? Why might they be useful as an adaptation? Science 4.5a	
	Compare and contrast the animals in the story (e.g., beavers and otters) ELA 4.5h	
7		scrambled
8	What is Danny like? (highlight his competitiveness) What connections do you have to Danny? ELA 4.5k	bounded
		pinged
9	Compare/contrast otters’ mud-sliding to penguins’ tobogganing, humans’ sledding, etc. ELA 4.5h	lunged
	What does “neck and neck” mean? ELA 4.4a	
11	SPLOOSH--onomatopoeia	nuzzled
	Write about a situation in your life when someone else has beaten you in a competition. How did you feel? ELA 4.7	
	Make “Otter Character Traits” graphic shaped like an otter. Use to describe each otter character. ELA 4.5k	
	Cause and effect: What effect did winning have on Mist? ELA 4.5j	
12	Internet research: find examples of what otter barks	somersaulted

	(and other noises) sound like ELA 4.9b, c, d	
	Multiple-meaning word: current ELA 4.4a	launched
13	Synonyms and antonyms: furiously ELA 4.4b	
	Why did Mist's heart sink? How would you have felt if you were Mist? Describe a similar situation in your life. ELA 4.5j	
14		pelting
		peered
15	Multiple-meaning word: rapid ELA 4.4a	
15-16	Suffixes: -ing, -ed, -ly, -er ELA 4.4b	
16		massive
17	What would you have done if your friend went over the falls? Compare this to what Danny and Mist did. ELA 4.5e, h, i	precipice
18	How is Danny changing? How do you know this? ELA 4.5h	crevices
	Suffixes: -ness ELA 4.4b	murky
		boulders
19	Share a time when you had to hold your breath for a long time. Describe how it felt.	frantically
19-20	Suffixes: -ally, -ly, -es, -ment ELA 4.4b	
20	Multi-meaning word: sailing ELA 4.4a	surge
21-22	Identify the Danville landmarks the otters pass by in this part of the story. ELA 4.5k	
22	Describe a time when you were separated from your parents or loved ones. How did you feel? ELA 4.7	island
24	Sequencing: Using visualization, describe the steps Danny and Mist used to save Splash. ELA 4.5e, k	insistent
	Who are the strange creatures the otters saw? ELA 4.5h	
	Describe (or draw) what an island in the middle of a river would look if there was flooding. ELA 4.5h, j, k	
25	How could two-legged creatures be dangerous to otters? If you were one of those creatures in that situation, what would you do? ELA 4.5h, j	jolt
	How long is an otter length? Calculate what the distance would be in feet. How far were the otters from the two-legged creatures? ELA 4.5h, Math 4.7a	halt
	Multiple-meaning word: banks ELA 4.4a	swayed
	Vocabulary game: Students act out these words, and students guess which one their classmates are pantomiming: frantic, flung, thrashed, launched, quivering, glanced ELA 4.4a, d	See activity
	What are the musical noises? ELA 4.5h	
	What does an animal look like when its teeth are bared?	

25-26	SNAP: Onomatopoeia	
27	Predict what you think will happen next with the two-legged creatures. What would you do? ELA 4.5i	clutching
	Talk or write about a time when you, like Danny, really wished your mother or father was with you. ELA 4.7	
	What did Danny's momma mean when she told him, "Think before you act?" Do you usually do this? Describe a time when you <u>have</u> or <u>haven't</u> thought before you acted. What did you learn? ELA 4.5h, j	
	Danny asks himself, "What happens now?" What do YOU think happens now? ELA 4.5i	
28	What is self-defense? How is Mist using self-defense in this part of the story? Is it right or wrong? ELA 4.5e	lurched
		ferociously
30	What is teamwork? How have the otters used teamwork during this story? Can you think of a time when you have used teamwork? What was the result? ELA 4.5c, d, h, j	foes
	Rewrite the last few pages of the story from the two-legged creatures' point of view. ELA 4.7, 4.8	
	Write the next <i>Dan River Twins</i> adventure! ELA 4.7, 4.8	