SECRET OF THE ANDES

Synopsis

This is a story of a boy Cusi who is learning the ancient ways of the Incas. He lives in the mountains with an older man named Chuto. It was not an easy life to live in the mountains and keep the ceremonies of the Incas. Cusi and Chuto make a trip into Cuzco. Cusi was surprised at all he saw and he noticed that the city Indians did things differently than he had learned in the mountain. Cusi thought of what it might be like to belong to a family but he eventually realizes that he has a special family that includes the keepers of the ancient Incan ways.
SECRET OF THE ANDES
LESSON 1
Chapters 1 - 4

1. Where had the old man Chuto found Cusi?
   A. In the forest
   B. On a flat table-like rock near a narrow canyon.
   C. In the valley where the people in the hut lived

2. What did Chuto and Cusi eat for supper every day?

3. What is a llama?

4. Put the following events in the correct order:
   _____ Cusi braided rope for the trip
   _____ The minstrel came
   _____ Cusi welcomed in the sun with Chuto
   _____ Chuto finds Cusi watching the people

5. What does Chuto mean when he says, “We are the Keepers?”

6. Families also have traditions or ways they do things. What is one of your family traditions?
1. How did Cusi feel when he came to the swinging bridge made of vines?

2. When Cusi and Chuto stopped at the hut in the valley for a drink, how did Cusi react to the boy his own age?

3. How are Chuto and Cusi able to get the needed salt?
   A. They find it on the ground in the Valley of Salt.
   B. They dig a hole, which fills with salty water and then let the water evaporate.
   C. They trade for it with the other Indians in the area.

4. What does “bartering” mean?

5. What does the older man mean when he says that Cusi is one of the Chosen?

6. Why would Chuto be happy that Cusi was glad to be going home?
1. The llamas were the companions and burden bearers of the Inca Indians for how many years?
   A. Twelve-thousand years
   B. Twenty-five years
   C. Five hundred years

2. What did Cusi want and think about that he did not have?

3. What did Cusi find in the ancient temple that Chuto knew to be a sign for the boy?

4. What does “ancients” mean?

5. Why does Chuto say that Cusi has a “mind like a startled deer?”

6. Describe what part of living in the mountains instead of a city, would you find to be the hardest?
SECRET OF THE ANDES
LESSON 4
Chapters 12 - 14

1. What was Cusi’s first disappointment on his trip to Cuzco?

2. Why did the llamas and Cusi not go into Cuzco the evening they arrived?
   A. They didn’t have money to pay for a room
   B. It was against the Spanish law
   C. Cusi was too tired to go any farther

3. What is Yapa?

4. Put the following in the correct order:
   _____ Cusi went to the indoor market
   _____ Cusi went inside the City of Cuzco
   _____ Cusi welcomed in the morning
   _____ Cusi traded for sugar cane

5. Why did Cusi buy the dried starfish from the medicine man?

6. If you were traveling with Cusi, what would you have found the most interesting in the city of Cuzco? Why would it have interested you?
1. Who was Titu?

2. Why did the news of the landslide sadden Cusi?

3. Which of the following did Cusi see at the church first (Put a check by it):
   A. The Indian woman
   B. The beggar
   C. The dog

4. What was the family that Cusi finally found that he belonged to?

5. What is Cusi’s chosen job?

6. What job do you think you would like when you get older? Why would you choose it?
SECRET OF THE ANDES
ANSWER KEY

LESSON 1
1. B
2. They ate frozen potatoes that are made into a meal called chuno.
3. A llama is a soft fleecy animal of South America that is used for carrying supplies etc.
4. The correct order is 4, 2, 3, and 1.
5. Answers may vary. Refers to the idea of keeping the ancient ways.

LESSON 2
1. Cusi was scared, but also excited and fascinated.
2. Cusi was too shy to say anything to the boy he met.
3. B
4. Bartering means to trade without the use of money.
5. Cusi being one of the chosen refers to the few who are chosen to follow the ancient Incan traditions and he was one.
6. Chuto was happy that Cusi wanted to go home because he was afraid that all the things outside of the mountains would fascinate Cusi and he would not want to return back to the lonely mountain.

LESSON 3
1. A
2. Cusi wanted and often thought about having a family.
3. Cusi found a pair of golden sandals at the ancient temple.
4. The ancients refer to the Incas before their takeover by the Spanish.
5. Chuto thinks the Cusi is like a startled deer because he jumps from thought to thought.
6. Answers will vary.
LESSON 4
1. Cusi's first disappointment was that the family in the valley he wanted to belong to was gone.
2. B
3. Yapa is what is given after a fair bargain has been made. It's a little extra to show good will.
4. The correct order is 3, 2, 1, and 4.
5. Cusi bought the starfish because the teacher had taught him what it would heal.
6. Answers will vary.

LESSON 5
1. Tito had been chosen but he ran away. He left Cusi in his place.
2. The news of the landslide saddened Cusi because kind people including his real mother were lost under the rocks.
3. The Dog was the first thing Cusi saw at the church.
4. Cusi belonged to the family of the ancient Incas.
5. Cusi's chosen job was to guard and protect the Royal Incan llamas and the ancient gold from the Spanish conquerors.
6. Answers will vary.