

# WHITE FANG

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# WHITE FANG

## Synopsis

This action packed book leads into the story of the half-breed wolf. It tells about the wolf's mother and surviving in the wilderness, animal against human. White Fang is introduced as a young cub, more curious than most, but fearful of the many unknowns around him. After his first kill, he changes and becomes braver. During a time when food was scarce, his mother brings him to an Indian village where the two animals become both pet and worker. It is at this point that White Fang's character starts to be molded in a new way. White Fang is constantly being pestered by a dog named Lip-lip. He cannot find sanctuary anywhere from him, and his life becomes one of misery. The Indians trade White Fang to a cruel man named Beauty Smith. Beauty keeps dogs for the local dogfights, where only the winner lives. White Fang's life is worse than before. Finally, he gets a kind owner named Weedon Scott. Weedon takes care of him, and breaks through the years of unkindness to find a loyal friend. When it is time for Weedon to return to his home in California, he decides to take White Fang with him. At first everyone is afraid of him, but his White Fang's love for Weedon eventually earns him a place in the family.

# WHITE FANG

## LESSON 1

### Chapters 1 - 5

1. One morning Henry did not get Bill a cup of coffee, why not?
  - A. They just ran out of coffee the day before.
  - B. Henry had overslept and hadn't made any yet.
  - C. Another dog was missing and Bill had made a bargain.
2. List two reason that Bill and Henry thought the she-wolf was partially tame.
3. When Henry said, "A man's half licked when he says he is," what did he mean?
4. Henry is left alone because something happened to Bill. What happened?
5. How does Henry get away from the wolves?
6. Would you have liked to be with Bill and Henry?  
Explain why or why not?

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## LESSON 2

### Chapters 6 - 10

1. Why did the gray cub think his father could disappear into walls?
2. Who do you think was stronger, the lynx or the wolf?  
Explain your answer.
3. The cub's first day out was full of adventure. Put the events of his day in the order they happened.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the hawk swept past the cub.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the cub fell into the pond.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the cub fought the ptarmigan hen.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the cub ate the baby chicks.
4. How did the cub outgrow his fear of the things around him?
  - A. He outgrew it naturally as he grew older.
  - B. He outgrew it after the fight with the lynx.
  - C. He changed after he caught the hawk.
5. The author mentions that the dog began to like tribal life because, "it is always easier to lean upon another than to stand alone." What did the author mean?
6. Is it natural to keep a wild animal as a pet? Explain your answer.

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## LESSON 3

### Chapters 11 -1 5

1. What was one reason that White Fang was becoming so mean?
2. Why does White Fang try to return to the village after he had escaped?
  - A. He really hadn't wanted to leave, he had gotten lost.
  - B. He had grown too tame and was afraid of the wild.
  - C. His Indian master was calling him back to the camp.
3. Lip-lip was the lead dog of the sled team. Explain whether you think it was an honor, or not, to lead the sled team.
4. How do you think White Fang felt when his mother returned to camp with her new pups?
5. If White Fang had not been persecuted by Lip-lip, but had been part of the dog pack, describe how you think he might have been different.
6. Imagine if you could travel by sled dog across the snow-covered land. What would you like best about that way of traveling? Why?

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## LESSON 4

### Chapters 16 - 20

1. Why did Beauty Smith want to own White Fang?
  
2. Why did Matt think White Fang had been tame and belonged to a sled team before Beauty owned him?
  
3. Why did White Fang become ill?
  - A. the other dogs had beaten him and he was no longer the leader.
  - B. Beauty Smith had come back and tried to poison White Fang.
  - C. Because he was so sad that Weedon had gone away.
  
4. Put these events in the correct order.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Weedon and Matt conclude that White Fang had once been tame.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ White Fang bit Weedon
  - \_\_\_\_\_ White Fang killed major after major tried to take his meat.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ White Fang bit Matt
  
5. Why do you think Weedon Scott broke up the fight between the dogs and then bought White Fang.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What did White Fang do that was his way of showing his love for Weedon even though it went against all his wild instincts?

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## LESSON 5

### Chapters 21 - 25

1. Weedon made a bet with his father, the judge. What was the bet?
  - A. He could teach White Fang to do tricks.
  - B. White Fang could make friends with the collie.
  - C. He could leave White Fang in the chicken coop and the chickens would be safe.
2. Describe the only two times that White Fang ever barked.
3. Put a check by the event, which happened last.
  - the master thrashing the stone-throwers
  - killing the three saloon dogs
  - White Fang killing 50 hens
4. Do you think Matt agreed with Weedon that he should take the wolf? Support your answers with evidence from the story.
5. What was White Fang doing when he was hurt so badly that he almost died?
6. Which of White Fang's characteristics did you admire the most? Explain why.

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## ANSWER KEY

### LESSON 1

1. C
2. Reasons may vary. She came in for food at feeding time, She wasn't afraid of the men, and she seemed to know about guns because she backed off when she saw one.
3. Answers may vary. The author may have been suggesting that when you give up you can't finish or win.
4. Bill went out to get the wolves and didn't return. The wolves got him.
5. Henry gets away from the wolves because a group of men come and scare away the wolves and help Henry.
6. Answers will vary.

### LESSON 2

1. The gray cub thought his father could disappear because he didn't understand that the light at the far end of the cave was an entrance not a wall.
2. Answers will vary. The lynx and wolf were similar in strength. The wolf seemed to be stronger on this day as he won the fight.
3. The correct order is 3, 4, 2, and 1.
4. B
5. Answers may vary. The author may have meant that there is more security and comfort when you are with others. It is harder to always have to do everything on your own and sometimes it is even scary.
6. Answers will vary. Hopefully they will understand that wild animals are not meant to be pets.

### LESSON 3

1. One reason that White Fang was becoming so mean was that Lip-lip kept pestering him.
2. B
3. Answers may vary. You knew you were the best if you were a lead dog, but it was not totally an honor because the other dogs did not like the leader and were mean to him.
4. Answers will vary.



### LESSON 3 continued

5. Answers will vary.
6. Answers will vary.

### LESSON 4

1. Beauty Smith was cruel and he wanted to own White Fang to watch him fight.
2. Matt thought White Fang had belonged to a sled dog team because he had marks on his chest that could have been caused by a sled harness.
3. C
4. The correct order is 1, 4, 2, and 3.
5. Answers may vary. Weedon didn't believe in being cruel to animals and he thought making dogs fight was mean.
6. White Fang started to snuggle with Weedon.

### LESSON 5

1. C
2. The first time white Fang barked was when Weedon was on a horse and the horse started bucking. White Fang barked for the horse to stop. The second time was when Weedon was hurt and White Fang was trying to get the family's attention to come and help.
3. The last event was the killing of the three saloon dogs.
4. Even though Matt agrees at first that Weedon should not take the dog, the author makes the reader feel that Matt really felt that White Fang would only be happy with Weedon.
5. White Fang got hurt badly when he fought with the intruder who was an escaped convict.
6. Answers will vary.