

***Sink or Swim*, by Steve Watkins—an adventure novel is inspired by the true story of the youngest boy to serve in World War II.**

As you read the novel, you will respond to the assignment in the pages by doing the following:

- VOCABULARY:
 - Circle the vocabulary word as you find it in the chapter.
 - Hi-light in YELLOW the sentence in which the word is found.
 - Keep a list at the back of the book of all words and the page number on which they are found.
- QUESTIONS:
 - Hi-light (in a color other than yellow) the passage in which the answer to the question is found. If necessary, write a short note in the margin to explain *how* this passage answers the question.
- PEOPLE and PLACES:
 - Draw a box around each character name the first time he/she is introduced to the story, and underline any description that accompanies the introduction.
 - At the beginning of each chapter, make a note of *where* the action in that chapter takes place.

<p>Chapter 1: Vocabulary – trawl, hypothermia, tarp</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How old are Colton and Danny Graham? Why are they out trawling? Why are Colton and Danny not as close to each other as they once were? What does the thing that is “enormous and gray [but not] a whale” turn out to be?
<p>Chapter 2: Vocabulary—sound</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the difference between being unconscious and being in a coma? What caused everybody to “stop dead in their tracks?” What two emotions does Colton have when he considers the Germans’ attack? What does Colton decide to do?
<p>Chapter 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What lie does Colton tell his mother in his letter? Why does Colton (Danny) feel “lucky” about his first ride? How does that luck run out?
<p>Chapter 4: Vocabulary—moonshine</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How old is Woody? How is it he is enlisting in the navy? What is “liberty?” What items are issued to the new recruits? What are they told to do with their civilian clothes?
<p>Chapter 5: Vocabulary—bellow, straggler, calisthenics, comprehensive, nautical, requisition</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What impossible task does Chief Petty Officer ask Woody to do? Why will Merkel never ask the recruits a question? What deal does Merkel make with “Danny?”
<p>Chapter 6: Vocabulary—numbskull</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What way does “Danny” use to teach his fellow recruits how to tie knots?
<p>Chapter 7: Vocabulary—capsize, veer, vigilant, aptitude</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why was Danny’s team criticized for winning the boat “race?” What does Danny pray for? (<i>and from this point on, he’s just Danny...not “Danny”</i>)
<p>Chapter 8:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why might Straub’s family feel uncomfortable at the graduation? In his speech, why does Merkel say the recruits will thank him some day?
<p>Chapter 9:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where did Straub and Spinelli go after graduation? What does Lt. McDaniel’s story teach the men about “how the Nazi beast operates?”
<p>Chapter 10: Vocabulary—submerge</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What do Danny and the recruits learn in their classes? How are U-boats different from submarines? Why does Lt. Foss tell the men they are “all dead?” What did Woody do when he went off by himself?
<p>Chapter 11: Vocabulary—simulated, concussive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What does Lt. Foss say will be the “biggest challenge” upon deployment? What happened to the <i>USS Gulfamerica</i>?

Summer Reading Assignment – FBA 6th Grade

Chapter 12: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is “tricing up?”2. Why is the New York City skyline both beautiful and dangerous?
Chapter 13: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How does Danny’s hygiene suffer on the ship?2. What is Danny’s “weapon?”
Chapter 14: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How does Woody’s strange behavior turn dangerous?
Chapter 15: oblivious, flail, buoy <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How does Chief Kerr respond to Woody, Danny, and Straub’s rescue?
Chapter 16: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where does Danny go when he wanders off on his own in Key West?2. Who is Ernest Hemingway and what’s so special about his cats?3. What is the “funnest time” Danny has had since getting hurt?
Chapter 17: initiate, convoy <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What was on the convoy headed up the East Coast? Why is it in danger?2. How did U-boats attempt to deceive the PC?3. How do Danny and Straub differ in what they hope for the German sub?
Chapter 18: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How were the German prisoners treated?2. What is the “miracle” from this battle?
Chapter 19: Vocabulary—whiplash <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How was Woody a hero in the torpedo attack?
Chapter 20: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is the process for burying men at sea?2. Where does Danny have the “best hour of sleep [he’d] had in weeks?”3. What was the objective of escorting convoys to New Orleans and Texas?4. How does the blackout play a role in possibly chasing off the U-boats?5. Having abandoned the East Coast, where are the German U-boats swarming?
Chapter 21: Vocabulary—debris, plague <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What was the sad state of the ships that found themselves in the middle of a U-boat wolfpack?2. What is the frustrating game of “chase” the PC engaged in with the U-boats?
Chapter 22: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What was odd about the encounter with Woody down in his sleeping quarters?2. What did the German sailors do as the armed American sailors looked on?
Chapter 23: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What happened to Woody? What memory does this bring to Danny’s mind?2. How many sailors escape in the life boat?3. What medical treatment did Danny receive for his wounded leg?4. What is the Chief’s theory about the sinking of their ship?
Chapter 24: Vocabulary—stupor, hardtack <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What supplies do the men have in the lifeboat?2. What happened to Donaldson?3. Besides exposure, thirst, and starvation, what new threat from the ocean do the men face?4. What wound does Straub seem to be carrying?5. What pain comes from the “heat of the climbing sun?”
Chapter 25: Vocabulary—briny <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What causes the men to shout “Halleluja!”?2. Why is Benjy an idiot?
Chapter 26: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Who do the sailors encounter in the middle of the ocean?2. What does Straub want to do to the Germans? Who stops him? Why?3. How are all the men finally rescued?
Chapter 27: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Why weren’t there many patients in the New York City hospital?2. What kind of trouble is Colton in?3. What war rumors has Straub heard?4. How does Colton honor Woody and Straub?