

WHAT IS MY GRADE 4 STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 2?

Wit & Wisdom® is our English curriculum. It builds knowledge of key topics in history, science, and literature through the study of excellent texts. By reading and responding to stories and nonfiction texts, we will build knowledge of the following topics:

Module 1: *A Great Heart*

Module 2: *Extreme Settings*

Module 3: *The Redcoats Are Coming!*

Module 4: *Myth Making*

In Module 2, we will examine how people react to extreme environments. Students will analyze what makes landscapes such as mountains challenging. We will ask the question: How do humans survive against the odds?

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS AND STORIES

Novel

- *Hatchet*, Gary Paulsen

Short Story

- “All Summer in a Day,” Ray Bradbury

Scientific Account

- *Mountains*, Seymour Simon
- *SAS Survival Handbook: The Ultimate Guide to Surviving Anywhere*, John “Lofty” Wiseman

Poems

- “Dust of Snow,” Robert Frost
- “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening,” Robert Frost

OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THIS ARCHITECTURE

- *Fallingwater*, Frank Lloyd Wright

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS

- How does the setting affect the characters or speakers in the text?
- What makes a mountainous environment extreme?
- How does setting influence character and plot development?
- How does a challenging setting or physical environment change a person?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME

As your Grade 4 student reads, ask:

- What's happening?
- What does a closer look at words and illustrations reveal about this text's deeper meaning?

BOOKS TO READ AT HOME

- *Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books*, Gary Paulsen
- *Grand Canyon*, Jason Chin
- *Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95*, Phillip Hoose
- *Hurricanes*, Seymour Simon
- *A Girl Named Disaster*, Nancy Farmer
- *The Sign of the Beaver*, Elizabeth George Speare
- *Navigating Early*, Clare Vanderpool
- *My Side of the Mountain*, Jean Craighead George
- *The River*, Gary Paulsen
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, Scott O'Dell
- *Brian's Return*, Gary Paulsen
- *Brian's Winter*, Gary Paulsen
- *Brian's Hunt*, Gary Paulsen
- *The Wild Robot*, Peter Brown
- *Falling Water: The Building of Frank Lloyd Wright's Masterpiece*, Anna Egan Smucker and Marc Harshman
- *Time of Wonder*, Robert McCloskey

PLACES YOU CAN VISIT TO TALK ABOUT THE HEART

Visit the library or go online at home. Search for some images of extreme environments, such as the Canadian wilderness, Mono Lake, Octopus Springs, Killington (Vermont), Grenada, Southern Belize, or Iceland.

- What do you notice and wonder about this region?
- What do you think life is like there?