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The Jungle Book

12 Chapters

Day 1—

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 1: A Boy of the Pack

VOCABULARY Mowgli, wolves, jungle, rules

Mowgli was a boy who lived deep in the Indian jungle. Wolves had raised him and a bear named Baloo had taught him. The jungle was not a wild and lawless place at all. Every animal knew what was right and what was wrong. Strong animals could not just take from weak ones whenever they wanted. There were rules about hunting and about the water hole. ★ **The jungle has its own law.**

THINK Who raised Mowgli?

Chapter 2: Baloo's Lessons

VOCABULARY Baloo, Law, taught, jungle

Baloo was a big brown bear and Mowgli's teacher. He taught Mowgli the Law of the Jungle word by word. The Law covered every situation an animal might face. It covered hunting and water rights and how to greet others. Breaking the Law brought real punishment from the jungle. Baloo said the Law was older than any animal alive. ★ **The jungle operates by its own ancient and absolute law.**

THINK Who was Mowgli's teacher?

Chapter 3: The Tiger Who Broke the Law

VOCABULARY Shere Khan, Law, pack, Akela

Shere Khan the tiger thought he was above the Law. He hunted wherever he wanted and threatened other animals. The wolf pack grew angry at his arrogance and his rudeness. Akela the leader warned him that the Law had no exceptions. Even the strongest animal had to follow the shared rules. When Shere Khan ignored this warning the pack turned against him. ★ **The jungle's law is absolute — those who break it are cast out from the community.**

THINK Who thought he was above the Law?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 4: Different but Welcome

VOCABULARY Mowgli, pack, Law, different

Mowgli was different from the wolves he lived with. He had no fur and he walked on two legs. He could not howl at the moon like the rest. But the pack accepted him because he kept their Law. He respected the same elders and guarded the same land. Shared rules make very different creatures into one family. ★ **Law creates belonging.**

THINK How was Mowgli different?

Chapter 5: Coming Home

VOCABULARY Mowgli, village, Baloo, Bagheera

The human village had pushed Mowgli away because he seemed strange. He walked back to the jungle with a heavy and sad heart. Baloo and Bagheera met him at the edge of the trees. They did not ask where he had been or what had happened. They asked only if he still remembered the Law of the Jungle. When Mowgli recited it perfectly they led him home at once. ★ **Shared laws and values create genuine belonging.**

THINK Why was Mowgli pushed away?

Chapter 6: The Monkey People

VOCABULARY Bandar-log, Law, monkey, rules

The Bandar-log were the monkey people of the jungle. They had no Law and no leader and no promises to anyone. They grabbed at anything they wanted and forgot it quickly. Other animals avoided them because they could not be trusted. The wolf pack and the elephants were different from them. Rules are not chains — they hold a community together inside. ★ **Shared laws transform individuals into a true community — without them there is only chaos.**

THINK Who were the Bandar-log?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 7: Between Two Worlds

VOCABULARY Mowgli, worlds, village, jungle

Mowgli had lived his whole life between two different worlds. In the jungle he was the only one who walked on two legs. In the village he was the boy who had been raised by wolves. Neither world accepted him fully without some suspicion. The animals sometimes feared the human smell that clung to him. The village children called him strange and kept away from him. ★ **Mowgli belonged nowhere.**

THINK What made Mowgli different in the jungle?

Chapter 8: A Strange New Place

VOCABULARY Mowgli, village, wolf, home

When Mowgli first entered the village he hoped to feel at home. These people were the same kind of creature as him. But their language felt strange and their customs made no sense. They cooked their food and slept inside houses with walls. Mowgli had never done any of these things in his life. He missed the wolf pack and the river and the trees. ★ **Mowgli belonged fully to neither world he knew.**

THINK What did Mowgli hope in the village?

Chapter 9: A Border Life

VOCABULARY Mowgli, worlds, jungle, between

Mowgli's story is about growing up between two worlds. He had the instincts of a jungle animal and the body of a boy. Each world gave him something real but held something back. The jungle gave him freedom but not his full humanity. The village gave him humanity but not the wildness he needed. He walked the line between them without fully crossing either. This is not only a sad story but also a rich one about border lives. ★ **Mowgli existed between two worlds — belonging fully to neither the jungle nor the village.**

THINK What did Mowgli have from the jungle?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 10: Two Roads

VOCABULARY Mowgli, worlds, jungle, belong

For a long time Mowgli tried to live in both worlds at once. He went to the village by day and the jungle at night. He thought he could belong to both if he tried hard enough. But the animals started to feel he was divided and less trustworthy. And the villagers noticed his strange habits with real suspicion. Standing between two worlds turned out to be more tiring than choosing one.

★ **Identity requires a choice.**

THINK What did Mowgli try to do?

Chapter 11: The Burning Branch

VOCABULARY Mowgli, Shere Khan, village, branch

The moment that defined Mowgli most was when he faced Shere Khan. He could have stayed hidden and let the tiger threaten the village. He could have warned the people and then run away himself. Instead he walked toward the tiger with a burning branch in his hand. He chose to protect the village even though they had not accepted him. That clear and conscious choice showed exactly who he was. ★ **True identity requires a conscious and definitive choice.**

THINK What did Mowgli carry toward the tiger?

Chapter 12: Into the Jungle

VOCABULARY Mowgli, village, jungle, Baloo

After defeating Shere Khan Mowgli stood at the edge of the jungle. Behind him was the village with its fires and its people. Before him was the dark forest with its Law and its freedom. He felt both worlds pulling him with almost equal strength. But he saw at last that this feeling would not end on its own. It only ends when a person steps firmly one way and never looks back. Mowgli took a breath and walked into the jungle where Baloo waited. ★ **True identity requires a choice — we cannot belong everywhere without belonging nowhere at all.**

THINK Where did Mowgli stand?