

Stone Fox is written by John Reynolds Gardiner. This guide or comprehension packet includes vocabulary lists for discussion, comprehension questions, and also allows students to write and illustrate an epilogue.

#### Chapter 1- Grandfather

1. Who gets up earlier, Grandfather or the chickens?

2. What's wrong with Grandfather?

3. What other characters are we introduced to so far?

#### Chapter 2 – Little Willy

New Words: irrigation, strong box, mare, way off key, buying on credit

1. What does Doc Smith think will happen to Grandfather?

2. How does Willy plan to fix Grandfather's health?

3. How do Willy and Grandfather talk to each other?

4. What does Willy wish he could buy before harvest? Why doesn't he buy one?

5. Who comes to help?

6. With the potato harvest done, I suppose Willy and Grandfather are feeling just find now. What are your thoughts about this?

#### Chapter 3- Searchlight

1. What are Grandfather's dreams for Willy's future?

2. What's a city slicker?

3. What's the first clue you get from the author that something is not right back at the farmhouse?

#### Chapter 4- The Reason

1. If you didn't know what a derringer is, which reading strategy would work best

to  
figure it out?

2. Why has Clifford Snyder come to their farm and what is he threatening to do?

#### Chapter 5- The Way

1. Why do you think Grandfather didn't pay his taxes?

2. What advice does Willy get from everyone about the farm?

3. Willy has a better idea. What is it?

4. Grandfather can't talk, but if he could, what do you think he would want Willy to do?

#### Chapter 6- Stone Fox

New words: hair tonic, Shoshone and Arapaho, amateur, unison, cunning, solid granite

1. What does this expression mean: When Willy left City Hall, he felt ten feet tall.

2. Describe Stone Fox. (atleast two sentences: one that describes what he looks like and the other to describe his personality)

3. What do you think of Stone Fox?

4. What word best describes Willy's personality?

#### Chapter 7- The Meeting

1. Do the people in town make Willy feel like he is doing the right thing or the wrong thing?

2. If you were Willy, would you have stopped to investigate the barking in the old barn? Why or why not?

#### Chapter 8 – The Day

New Words and Phrases: the Tetons, “they stood nine abreast”, abrupt halt

1. Think of two words that tell how Willy is feeling the morning of the race.
2. When Lester asks him about his eye, what does Willy say happened?
3. Why do you think there is such a large crowd to watch this years race?
4. Name a couple nervous habits some of Willy’s friends had as they began to watch?

#### Chapter 9- The Race

1. Who do you think will win the race and why?
2. What miracle happened in this chapter?

#### Chapter 10- The Finish Line

1. What tragedy happens?
2. How does Stone Fox react to the tragedy?
3. Write and illustrate an epilogue. (A final chapter to the book describing life after these events.)

### **Chapter 1 Activity:**

Make up a practical joke that Grandfather could have played on Little Willy.

### **Chapter 2 Activity:**

Write some examples from Chapter 2 that show how

Willy is determined and thoughtful.

### **Chapter 3 Activity:**

Pretend you were in Wyoming during winter.  
Think of 2 fun outdoor activities you would engage in and then draw a picture of each of those activities

### **Chapter 5 Activity:**

In this chapter Willy learns about a dog sled race. He finds out about it by reading a poster.

Create a flyer on the next page to advertise for the race.

Include information about the race such as the title of event, date and time of event, purpose of event, location of event, etc.

Provide pictures or drawings that relate to the event on the flyer as well.

Information about the race can be found on page 43 in the book.

### **Chapter 10 Activity:**

**Did the story end the way you thought it would?**

Write your reaction to the author's ending on this page.  
Create a different story ending on this page.

