

Study Questions for *Island of the Blue Dolphins*

6th Grade Required Summer Reading

Answer these questions in complete sentences and in paragraph form on a separate piece of paper. Bring your answers and discussion questions on the first day of school.

1. What is the book about? Summarize the plot of the book in eight to ten complete sentences.
2. Do you think it was right for Karana to jump off the ship to return to her brother? Why or why not?
3. Why does Karana decide to canoe to the country lying to the east? What causes her to return to the island? Why is she happy after she returns?
4. Earlier in the book, Karana nursed Rontu back to health, even though he was one of the wild dogs that had killed her brother. What similar situation occurs in the last nine chapters of the novel? Why is the situation similar?
5. Have you ever heard the expression “No man is an island”? What do you think this statement means? Do you agree with it? Would the author of *Island of the Blue Dolphins* agree with it?