

National Park Mystery Series: Mystery in Rocky Mountain National Park Book 1
Answers for questions

Chapter 1

1. The boy is feeling scared, afraid, or terrified because the book says, “the boy was frantically searching for a way to escape.” “The boy’s heart, which was already racing, began to slam against his ribcage.”
2. The boy is locked up in a shed and can’t get out. He doesn’t know what they are going to do with him.
3. The boy is going to make them think he escaped through the window because he opened the window and scraped the mud from his boots onto the window sill. He won’t actually leave because he knows he can’t get past them, so he climbed up into the rafters.
4. I predict that the men will come in and find him missing. They will think he escaped and leave to search for him. After they leave, the boy will be able to escape.

Chapter 2

1. Jake and his friends stopped being friends and didn’t hang out anymore, because his friends played video games and he didn’t like to play video games.
2. Nick is Jake’s older brother and went off to college and became too busy to come home and visit.
3. He died of kidney failure and complications.
4. Jake hardly moved when he woke Jake up and now he is moving really quickly.

Chapter 3

1. He hid a scrapbook full of pictures for Jake to find.
2. Jake’s grandpa planned the trip they were on because Jake’s dad asked him to a couple years ago.
3. Jake’s grandpa planned a scavenger hunt. Jake is finding clues, and Jake’s dad told him about how he used to do that for him and Jake’s aunt when they were kids.
4. Jake’s mom wants Jake’s younger cousin Wes and their friend’s daughter Amber. Jake doesn’t want to include anyone else because this was something special his grandpa created for him.
5. The clue was written on the back of picture 2 on page 27. The clue was to meet a man named Jasper the week of May 28th at Rocky Mountain National Park at the building the picture shows.
6. The second clue said, “Find the old man of the mountain. He’ll show you the way.” written inside a very small envelope that was behind a picture in the scrapbook.
7. Adventurous because he liked visiting all the national parks and creating puzzles to solve like the scavenger hunt he made for Jake.

8. A tiny empty envelope with a message written inside it saying, "Find the old man of the mountain. He'll show you the way."
9. The town is Estes Park. It got its name from the valley where it was established because in the past they called big open spaces parks.
10. Jake was feeling sad because he has never been to a national park or the mountains and he couldn't see them because it was dark outside. He also couldn't ask anyone about his picture clue because nobody was working the gate.

Chapter 4 Answers:

1. The boy didn't leave right away because he wanted to wait until it was dark outside, so he wouldn't be seen.
2. He first went to where he stashed his pack along the creek.
3. Second, he went to where he saw the men bury something.
4. The boy found an old silver Indian relic.
5. The boy's dilemma was if he should take what he found or leave it. If he takes it the men will continue to look for him, but if he leaves it there they might forget about him and stop looking for him.
6. The boy decided to take the silver Indian relic with him because he knew it didn't belong to the men. They had stolen it.

Chapter 5 Answers:

1. I know Jake was startled because he jumped. He jumped because someone behind him started talking that he didn't know.
2. A park ranger named Ellie Musgrave. He asks her to help him identify a building in a photo his grandpa gave him.
3. He felt independent and proud because his parents trusted him to do this on his own.
4. Ranger Musgrave advised Jake he should get a different map of the park, because the one he had was for driving. She told him this because she thought he looked like an explorer.
5. Ranger Musgrave gave Jake a topographical map.
6. Ranger Musgrave taught Jake about the contour lines on the map. The closer together the lines are the steeper the slope and the farther apart the lines are the gentler the slope. She also taught him that two blue dashes running perpendicular to the creek shows there is a waterfall there.

Chapter 6 Answers:

1. Jasper gave him a package and told him to put it in his pack right away.
2. Jasper was a ham radio friend of his grandpa.
3. The package came from New Mexico from the keeper whose radio handle was Mather.
4. "Jake, we trust you."

5. Jasper acted paranoid because he kept looking at the door and he said, "I can't say much kid. It's not safe."
6. He hid in the woods in case someone was watching because of how Jasper was acting.'
7. A small wooden box was in the package.
8. The scavenger hunt was more than just a game.
9. A series of beeps coming from his phone that was an alarm he set to remind him to get back to camp.
10. Jake was wondering, What was in the wooden box? Who "they" is referring to in the note? Who or what is the "marmot?"

Chapter 7 Answers:

1. The boy risked starting a fire because he was cold.
2. Having a fire was a risk because the men looking for him might see or smell it and find him.
3. To get the dogs off his trail, he walked through the stream.
4. The boy climbed down into a steep ravine making the men think he might have fallen to his death.
5. The boy was planning to go to a house he sees that looks like another ranch. He was going to see if he could work for them and stay there.
6. The boy was worried they might turn him over to the men looking for him.

Chapter 8 Answers:

1. Jake hid the scrapbook and wooden box in the benches for the table in his camper. He buried them under things like blankets, jackets, backpack, hats, and gloves.
2. Jake found the next clue in the scrapbook on the same page the cabin picture was on.
3. The clue was written in morse code with dots and dashes.
4. Wes helped Jake solve the morse code message. It said, "EmeraldRoots". Wes also helped by saying it was a lake in the park.
5. Wes thought Jake wrote the morse code clue.

Chapter 9 Answers:

1. Jake hasn't seen the Catalina family in 5 years.
2. The adults wanted to tell the kids they could go hiking and exploring without them, but they needed to be safe.
3. They need to plan their adventure by writing their itinerary each time and give a clear ETA or estimated time of arrival back at the campground or where they planned to get picked up. They also needed to know the weather forecast and dress appropriately. They needed to pack the best gear and food.
4. At first they groaned because it sounded like a school project when it was called a task. Then they changed what it was called to a mission and they were excited.

5. This answer will vary depending on the person answering it. An example answer could be: I would be excited to be allowed to explore without my parents. This would allow me more freedom to do what I wanted to do and see. It also means my parents are trusting me more and treating me more like a grown up.
6. The parents gave them this opportunity to teach them skills, build trust, and be more independent.
7. An itinerary needs to include a list of places they plan to go and the trails they plan to take to get there. They also need to know the time they will leave, time they return, where they will start their trip, and where they will end the trip.
8. Uncle Brian gave the kids a cell phone and an emergency beacon. The cell phone is in case they need to get a hold of their parents. Cell phones don't always work in rural areas, so they gave them the beacon in case they had an emergency and needed people to find them.
9. The three main reasons people die in the wilderness are falling off something, drowning, and hypothermia.
10. Wes had a book that told them that flat terrain takes one hour to hike two miles. It also said that going uphill takes a little longer than one hour and going down hill is a little faster than one hour. They then used the map to calculate the distance they would be traveling and if it was uphill, downhill, or flat terrain.
11. Answers will vary. An example: Jake will have a hard time coming up with reasons why he needs to look around an area without telling them. The others will want to stick to their itinerary and want to know why they need to give him time to look around. I think he will have to tell them or risk not finding the next clue.

Chapter 10 Answers:

1. Abner Sprague knew the boy would show up because the men looking for him stopped by there looking for him during the night. Abner figured that the boy would be hungry, tired, and cold from trying to hide all night from them and want a place to stay.
2. The boy is worried if he goes to the ranch they will turn him over to the men looking for him.
3. When the boy goes to the door of the cabin at the ranch, the owner answers and gives him coffee and food. The owner tells him, "Anyone causing trouble for Dunraven is a friend of mine."
4. The boy's full name is Abe. He doesn't have a last name because he doesn't have a family.
5. The boy came from an orphanage in Philadelphia.
6. The boy tells Mr. Sprague that he can't return the thing he took from Dunraven because he doesn't think it belongs to him.

Chapter 11 Answers:

1. The view at the lake was much better than the kids thought it would be. The author describes the scene as the snow-capped mountains were really big and right in front of

them. Their reflection was in the lake. People were taking pictures of the landscape. Most people only take pictures of things they like such as pretty places.

2. The kids forgot to check the weather before they went on their hike.
3. First there were small snowflakes and a dark gray band of clouds. Sky was darkening. Started snowing more. Other hikers said the snow is starting to cover the trail and to be careful. The snow was falling faster with bigger flakes and the wind started picking up.
4. Answers vary: Some examples are the snow was slowing them down; they aren't use to the altitude yet and cold air;
5. Amber suggests skipping the side trail to Emerald Lake. Jake told them they could make it and started to continue to hike.
6. Amber and Wes demanded Jake tell them what he was looking for in order to risk their lives with the weather. Jake had to tell them about the scavenger hunt his grandpa planned or they wouldn't let him look anymore.

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Chapter 12 Answers:

1. Amber finds the next clue in the roots of a tree. It is an old bottle made of aqua-blue translucent glass and remains of an old cork that seals the top. It has a piece of leather in the bottle with "Find the Apache Fort" written on it in old style handwriting.
2. The kids can't find the trail because the snow has covered their tracks. They use the map and their compass to figure out what direction to go and stay moving in that direction.
3. Jake falls through a hole in the snow and is hanging on trying not to fall deeper into the hole. Amber and Wes start digging beside him using the edge of their snowshoes until Jake can lay on his side. Then they start digging his leg out. Once the leg is free they pull him out by his armpits.
4. Jake's uncle Brian said they should have activated the beacon then dug him out.
5. Answers vary
6. They have to go to the Library in town to find out where the Apache Fort is located.
7. Amber, Wes, and Jake all realize they don't really have any friends at school. They know what each other feels like not having friends.

Chapter 13 Answers:

1. Answers vary. An example answer: I do think there is more to the scavenger hunt than just a game because of the way Jasper was acting and the note Mather wrote with the box he sent.
2. The kids are looking in nonfiction books about the history of Rocky Mountain National Park at the library.
3. The kids found out that the Apache Fort was not really a fort, but a rock outcrop that some Apache warriors turned into a makeshift fort by stacking up a bunch of rocks. They were trying to ambush Ute Indians, but it didn't work. The Apache Fort is near a spring on the western edge of Upper Beaver Meadows.

Chapter 14 Answers:

1. The item taken from Dunraven looks like an arrowhead or a spearhead. It was made of silver and had markings etched in it on both sides that were in an ancient language that seemed like directions.
2. Abe scrubbed the dirt off the surface of the artifact. Then he did a print of the markings on it by rubbing it with charcoal and laying a piece of paper on it. He pressed it down to get the print to transfer. Then he put it in his journal and traced on another page in his journal what the print showed. He did this with both sides of the artifact.
3. Answers Vary. Example answer: I would feel scared because Dunraven's men might hurt me because I made them mad.
4. Abner sent one of his men in the morning to return the artifact to the rightful owner in town, Mrs. Cartwright.
5. Abner agreed to not tell anyone about Dunraven's men stealing the artifact from Mrs. Cartwright. Dunraven agreed to not let anyone touch the boy or take the artifact from Mrs. Cartwright again.
6. Dunraven took the deal because he knew it was illegal taking the artifact and he could be put in jail or sent back to England.

Chapter 15 Answers:

1. They think the building is a springhouse that covers a spring to prevent animals and leaves from ruining or contaminating the water supply.
2. The clue was found on the north side of the rock outcrop. On a flat smooth granite rock, numbers and letters were painted in white.
3. The letters and numbers were faint and hard to read because they were faded and far away. They used binoculars to get a closer look at the writing. Another problem was figuring out what the numbers and letters meant. They first checked to see if it was a cipher, but it wasn't and then they looked at the map and noticed the numbers on the edges of the map looked like the ones painted on the rock.
4. The clue they found at the Apache Fort was coordinates of latitude and longitude.
5. They used the map, GPS, and guidebook to find the next clue location.
6. The kids plan on biking down the mountain on a road that is closed to cars.

Chapter 16 Answers:

1. Brian thought it was a great idea. I know this because Brian smiled and said it sounded fun, and all the dads were going to go do it too.
2. Jake finds out his grandpa's handle on the ham radio was marmot because he whistled all the time like marmots do. This information was important because of the note Mather wrote that said, "Everything we've learned has been entrusted to the marmot."
3. The dad's all rode ahead of the kids to give them their own adventure.
4. Amber is really good at riding bikes because her dad and her mountain bike a lot at a place with ramps near their home in California. I know she is good at bike riding

because she was giving advice to Jake on how to keep his tire from sliding out from under him.

5. Wes was looking down at the GPS screen and was focused on that instead of what was on the ground.
6. Two park rangers stopped to check the buildings in that area and they asked the kids if they wanted to see the inside of the cabin. They said, "yes!"
7. They found a strange woodcarving that had a message on the shelf under the woodcarving. The message on the shelf said, "The old man of the mountain who leads you on." There was a clue Jake found in the scrapbook that said, "find the old man of the mountain. And he will show you the way."
8. They found a red line on the shelf and then another one on the floor. At the end of the red line were some numbers and another arrow. They used the arrow on the floor to point what direction on the map they should go.
9. The Twin Owls is the location of the next clue.

Chapter 17 Answers:

1. Answers vary. An example answer: Hank March is a unique mountain man with no real home that dressed and acted more like a Native American.
2. Abe and Mr. Sprague are going to mark a trail to the top of the mountain peak, together.
3. Burly thinks going up the mountain is only for people braver than him, because someone got blown off the mountain two years before.
4. Burly is trying to say that mountains are unpredictable. You should never underestimate the weather on a mountain, because it can change easily.
5. Answers vary. An example answer: I think Mr. Sprague knew Abe was brave standing up to Dunraven. Abe also doesn't have any family, so if something happened to him up on the mountain, nobody would miss him.

Chapter 18 Answers:

1. Amber, Jake, and Wes left quickly because they realized it was getting close to noon and they were supposed to be back at noon. They didn't want to lose their parents' trust.
2. The three things that slowed the kids down were Wes not remembering his bike lock combination, a mother and baby moose in the road, and the rain turning the road to mud.
3. The kids were thirty minutes late getting back. They first told their dads that two moose blocked the road and the rain and mud slowed them down. Then Jake told them he had lost track of time when exploring a cabin, so it was his fault they were late.
4. Mr. Evans put the blanket on the backseat of the truck because the kids were all wet and muddy from riding on the dirt road in the rain. He wanted to keep the seat clean.
5. Jake thinks his dad is really mad because when he is quiet he is mad, and right now his dad is being really quiet. He thinks because they have been late every time they have gone alone, they won't get another chance.

6. They got another chance because Jake was honest and didn't hide behind the excuses. He owned up to his mistake.
7. They changed their itinerary by adding another hour to when they will be back. They made the change because they were planning for if things went sideways and everything seems to take longer than what they thought and they want to be on time.
8. The parents asked them to include a bike route to the itinerary.

Chapter 19 Answers:

1. Amber thinks he's strange because he doesn't look like a hiker because he's wearing dress pants and a nice work jacket with sunglasses on. He had an earpiece in and was talking to someone.
2. Amber knows Wes's lock combination because she watched the strange guy say the numbers to someone he was talking to on the phone.
3. Jake compares Amber to Jasper because they were both acting paranoid.
4. A social trail is a trail not on the map that people make when they go exploring.
5. They made the mistake of having their headlamps on, so the man probably saw where they were.
- 6.

Chapter 20 Answers:

1. Wes doesn't like bats because he kept repeating to himself saying, "Just don't freak out." He also said he didn't like them because they remind him of rats with wings.
2. Answers vary. Example answer: Wes had to overcome his fear of bats or his fear of heights and small spaces (claustrophobic and acrophobic).
3. Wes overcomes his fears by using self-talk, help from his friends, and his adrenaline.
4. Wes remembered he used the elevation of the Twin Owls for his bike lock combination.
5. Wes, Jake, and Amber found a metal box.

Chapter 21 Answers:

1. Abe was afraid of climbing straight up the rock wall. He used previous experiences of overcoming challenges in his life to convince himself he can do anything. He also had Abner Sprague to provide moral support and believe in him.
2. Abe and Wes both have fears that they have to overcome and have the help of others believing in them to do it.
3. Abner wanted to mark the trail that will be used for people to climb to the top, so they could widen it and clear any debris out of the way.
4. Hospitality is the future in making money, and people will eventually pay to climb to the top of the mountain peak.
5. Abe sketches in his journal a panoramic view from the peak.
6. They meet Hank March on the way down the mountain. Abe is excited to meet him because he is hoping he will know what the markings in the native artifact mean.

Chapter 22 Answers:

1. Answers vary. Example answer: The author calls the chapter "Discovery" because the kids discovered that the journal belonged to Jake's great- great-grandfather. They also discovered that Jake's grandpa and his radio club friends might all be on a treasure hunt together.
2. Wes tells Jake he needs to get a knife because Jake asked to borrow his. He also thinks a knife will be helpful on these dangerous missions.
3. They found an old journal that was over a hundred forty years old. It had a couple drawings of an arrow head with markings on it. There were words written under one of the drawings. There also was a train ticket from 1880 that was from Philadelphia to Denver. The journal belonged to Abraham Longsight Evans.
- 4.

Chapter 23 Answers:

1. Wes thanked Jake for including him in the scavenger hunt because he knew Jake wanted to keep it all to himself.
2. Wes remembers the cipher they figured out earlier left by Jake's grandpa which said "seek help early. Learn from friends." Jake's grandpa was telling him to include friends and ask for help.
3. Wes and Jake both agree that there is more to the scavenger hunt and that there is a real treasure somewhere.
4. In the envelope Amber gives to Jake is a letter written to him from his grandpa. It tells about the journal and scrapbook being left to him by his grandpa. It tells about how his grandpa never found the journal, but he and his friends believe it is in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Chapter 24 Answers:

1. Hank March is on friendly terms with many Native American tribes in the area and they have told him stories about a silver arrowhead.
2. According to the Native American stories, The silver arrowhead is just one of two silver arrowheads that were created by an Anasazi warrior from two shooting stars that he followed the path after he observed them falling from the sky. One arrowhead is called The Key and the other one is called Spinning Star. These two arrowheads are the key to finding a bigger treasure.
3. Hank March is worried that people talk and word of the silver arrowhead will get back to a man that is looking for them. He thinks someone else will steal the arrowhead and even hurt the person who is possessing it.
4. Answers vary. An example answer: They are going to warn the lady who has the arrowhead of people looking for it. They might offer to help her hide it. Another answer: Other people are going to steal it from the lady and hurt her in the process.

Answers to Questions after the whole book is read:

1. The author alternates two separate stories that take place in the same place just at different time periods. One story happens in the past in 1880. The other story is happening now. The author typically does two chapters in a row of the story taking place in present time and then one chapter of the story happening in the past. This goes back and forth like this through the whole book.
2. Jake is telling the story from his point of view during the story that takes place in the present time period. The boy is telling the story from his point of view during the story that takes place in the past.
3. Answers vary
4. Answers vary: In the beginning of the story, Jake was sad about his grandpa and felt he had no friends anymore. At the end of the story, Jake has made two new friends and feels a closer connection with his grandpa than he did before.
5. Answers vary: The Author picked Rocky Mountain National Park as the main setting of the story because it is a large location, so it provides enough choices to create a story. Many people have been to a national park or camped before which provides a connection between the story being told and the audience reading the story. The author had a connection to the park because he lives near it, and he wants people to gain an appreciation for our country's national parks.
6. Realistic Fiction is the genre of this book.
7. The two stories being told are connected by Jake and Abe being related to each other. The story in the past is helping provide understanding to what the kids are finding as clues in the modern time story.
8. The name of the chapters that happen in the past is always 1880.