

Saint Martha School  
Grade 6 Literature  
Summer Reading Assignment

Read The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth George Speare and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. In a treaty, both sides agree to do something for the other side. Saknis and Matt make a treaty. What does Saknis agree to do for Matt, and what does Matt agree to do for Saknis?
2. Both Matt and Attean teach each other. What does Matt teach Attean? Why does Saknis want Attean to learn this?
3. What does Attean teach Matt? Why does Matt need to know this?
4. Why does Attean get upset about *Robinson Crusoe*?
5. What does Matt do to hide the truth about *Robinson Crusoe*?
6. Matt and Attean begin to develop a friendship. What things do they do together that they both enjoy doing?
7. Because they have very different backgrounds, at times they do not get along. Each of them thinks his own way is best. Name an example of this attitude for each boy.
8. Matt describes Attean's eyes as having a "nasty little gleam" (Chapter 6) and Attean's smile as a "horrid grin" (Chapter 10). What do you think Attean was feeling at those times? What was Matt feeling?
9. Why did Matt lie about what happened in the book *Robinson Crusoe*? Do you think this shows a friendship between Matt and Attean?
10. What else, other than lying, could Matt have done in this situation?
11. When Matt learns that the carving on the tree near the beaver dam is a sign that the beavers belong to Attean's tribe, he wonders if Ben would respect the sign. Do you think Ben would? Why or why not?

12. Matt had only two books in this cabin. If you could only have two books, what two books would they be? Why?

13. Matt struggles with learning to give respect to other people, and he discovers that historically, people have not always received the respect they deserve. Look up the following verses and explain what each says about showing respect:

Romans 12:10

Romans 13:7

1 Peter 2:17

14. Matt discovers that in *Robinson Crusoe*, Crusoe does not show Friday the respect that he probably deserved, and that the author made Friday seem to be very foolish for someone who had always lived on the island. Atean notices immediately that Crusoe is the master and Friday is the slave, but Matt had never thought deeply about that part of the book. Do you think that Europeans showed respect to the Native Americans when they made the treaties for land that Atean's grandfather refers to? Explain your answer.

15. Look up Genesis 1:27. In light of this verse, why do all people deserve respect?

16. Do you think that God is telling us that no matter what a person does, that person should be respected? Explain your answer.

17. Is it possible to respect a person because that person is made in the image of God and yet not agree with that person's behavior or beliefs? If so, how?

18. Have you ever cared about a person yet known that the person was doing something wrong? Were you able to show respect to the person while not approving of the behavior? How did you do so?

# Saint Martha School IXL Summer Math

[www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha](http://www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha)

All students entering grades second thru eight are expected to complete online math work designed to maintain and extend foundational math skills over the summer break. Through use of the website IXL ([www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha](http://www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha)), students have access to a comprehensive math practice site with an unlimited number of math practice questions in hundreds of skills. In addition to making math practice exciting, IXL is designed to help your child learn at his or her own pace. The website is adaptive and will adjust to your child's demonstrated ability level. The site also saves all of your child's results and time spent, so that student progress can be monitored. Students will be able to access this program during the summer as well as throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

When your child logs into IXL, he/she should click on the tab for the GRADE LEVEL that they just completed. For example, if your child will be in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this fall, he/she should work on grade level 2 this summer. Only exceptions: students taking prealgebra in grade 7 should work on grade 8; students taking Algebra 1 should work on Algebra 1. Students should work on a variety of exercises. I recommend cycling thru one exercise per topic.

You may email me at [dscanlon@stmarthact.eduk12.net](mailto:dscanlon@stmarthact.eduk12.net) after June 19, 2017 with any questions. The school office will also have a list of usernames and passwords.

User Id: First letter of first name + Last name (note just a few students have the digit "1" added to their name)

Password: School ID number (6 digits) **\*Can be found on report card!**

**Expectations:** During the summer students should spend 20 minutes a day reviewing math skills on IXL. Students entering grades five thru 8 are expected to spend a minimum of **10** hours on IXL this summer. Students entering grades two thru four are expected to spend **8** hours on IXL this summer. Make sure your child is logged into our IXL site by recognizing our red emblem to ensure that he/she will get credit for the time he/she spends on IXL. Thank you parents for your support!