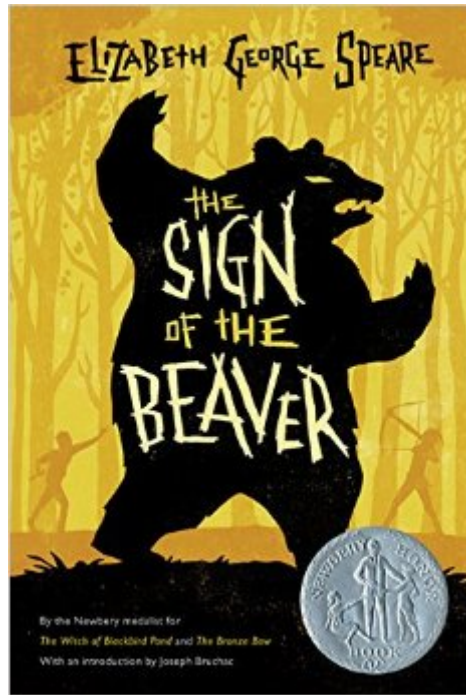


The book was found

The Sign Of The Beaver



Synopsis

Although he faces responsibility bravely, thirteen-year-old Matt is more than a little apprehensive when his father leaves him alone to guard their new cabin in the wilderness. When a renegade white stranger steals his gun, Matt realizes he has no way to shoot game or to protect himself. When Matt meets Attean, a boy in the Beaver clan, he begins to better understand their way of life and their growing problem in adapting to the white man and the changing frontier. Elizabeth George Speare's Newbery Honor-winning survival story is filled with wonderful detail about living in the wilderness and the relationships that formed between settlers and natives in the 1700s. Now with an introduction by Joseph Bruchac.

Book Information

Paperback: 135 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (August 2, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547577117

ISBN-13: 978-0547577111

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (586 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,010 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Colonial #2 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #10 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

"The Sign of the Beaver" has been required reading for 5th grade students in our school district for over a decade, and it is one of the required titles that all the students--boys and girls--seem to read with pleasure. Since our 5th grade social studies curriculum covers the settlement and colonial period of American history, this story about Matt's family homesteading in woods of Maine during this period fits in perfectly. While "The Sign of the Beaver" is an outstanding piece of historical fiction, it is also an exciting adventure story in the tradition of books like "My Side of the Mountain,"

"Hatchet," and "Island of the Blue Dolphins." It's been many years since I first read "The Sign of the Beaver," so I decided to listen to the audio-book on 2 cassettes, read by actor Greg Schaffert. Schaffert does a great job of moving this adventure along at a swift pace, and bringing the main characters to life. As one young reviewer wrote here, this story makes a great read-aloud, and listening to the tapes would be an excellent option for students, or for teachers to play for an entire class. Through Matt's friendship with Attean and his grandfather, chief of the Beaver clan, he learns to survive while his father goes to retrieve his mother and sister to bring them back to the cabin they built. Matt agrees to teach Attean how to read after they save him from life-threatening bee stings. In the end, Matt learns more from his native friend, than Attean does from him. While it is true that white people unfairly took land from the Indians, and this is a story that needs to be told, there were some subliminal messages I didn't notice the first time I read this book.

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