

* All answers came from website links.

Key

Island of the Blue Dolphin Internet Hunt

Based on *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell

Go to: the AE website, Then, student corner and Mrs. Tush. On the right hand side of the page you will scroll down to see 5th Grade. Under it will find 5th Island of the Blue Dolphins.

Directions: The colored and underlined words are links to web sites that provide the answers to the question. Click on them to go to the web site. Find the answer. Use the Back button of your browser to return to the hunt's web page. Sometimes you will have to click more than once to return to this hunt. If a link is broken, use your Internet research skills to find the answer.

1. Wonapalei harvests abalone for food and tools. What is an abalone? edible sea snails

Is abalone a vertebrate or an invertebrate? invertebrate

Have you ever eaten one? _____

2. She prefers red abalone. How large is a red abalone? Commonly 6-8 inches, but could be 11.76 inches

Which is larger - your hand or a red abalone? _____

3. People hunted the sea otters. How are sea otters unique among animals? (Follow the appropriate link.)

they do not have a layer of blubber to help them keep warm, instead they have the densest fur in the animal kingdom, which insulates them

4. Why were sea otters nearly extinct? people hunt them for their pelts, which is now illegal

5. Kelp grows in the sea around the island. How fast does kelp grow? (This is an exceptional web site.)

as fast as $\frac{1}{2}$ meter a day

6. How did Mr. O'Dell become aware of the true story of Karana?

In 1960, he came across a story of a girl who lived alone for 18 years on San Nicolas Island while researching *Country of the Sun*.

You want to do a biography of O'Dell. Under what name should you search?

Scott O'Dell (his book name) or O'Dell Gabriel Scott (his real name)

Why? his book was published under the wrong name and he decided he would keep the name

7. List two facts about cormorants.

a. they do not possess the water proofing oil of other seabirds

b. they are fish-eaters that reside along freshwater and saltwater shores

8. One plant found on the island is the toyon bush. What is its common name?

Christmas Berry

Would you expect to find toyon growing naturally in your town? _____

Why or why not? _____

9. Aleuts came to hunt the sea otters. How did the Aleuts get that name? (Explore the site to learn the answer.)

Possibly, it was derived from the Oluksli tribe, on the Oluksli River
or from the word Chukchee, which means island (aliut).
Another possibility is from the westernmost Aleuts, on Attu
Island.

Are they Eskimos? _____

10. The Island of the Blue Dolphins really exists and is part of the Channel Islands. Which island in the chain do you think is the one? (Dig in this web site about the Channel Islands to find the answer.)

San Nicolas Island

11. Select one of these reviews of the book. Why do you agree or disagree with the review?

12. Karana tells you many distances in leagues. How far is that in miles? yourDictionary.com/
(Enter the term league and search for the answer.)

a unit of distance equal to 3.0 statute miles
(4.8 kilometers)

13. If it is 3 leagues from you home to school, how far is that in miles?

14. O'Dell describes the sea elephant. Look at these photos. Is this what you imagined from his description?

How does your imagined picture of the seal differ from the real one? _____

15. Karana decides to hunt a male sea elephant (Northern Elephant Seal) for its teeth.
How much can one weigh?

up to 4500 pounds

Calculated challenge: Suppose Karana weighs 100 lbs. How much more than her, does the seal weigh?

16. Watch Santa Cruz Island video on the NPS web site.

<http://www.nps.gov/chis/photosmultimedia/restoring-balance-santa-cruz-island-long-version.htm>

How have people impacted the island? _____

17. The Chumash lived along the western coast of North America. Explore this site about these people. Write several facts about their culture.

- 1) In different parts of the region, people spoke different but related languages
- 2) trading was common between coastline + interior islands
- 3) they were known for the plank canoe and for fine basketry, cave paintings + money made from shells
- 4) families lived in a house called an "ap"
- 5) families used the village sweathouse.

18. Take this online quiz about the book. Write your score. _____

