

Island of the Blue Dolphin Internet Hunt

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

Go to: <http://www.mrsoshouse.com/ext/islebdol.html>

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? _____

Is abalone a vertebrate or an invertebrate? _____

Have you ever eaten one? _____

2. She prefers red abalone. How large is a red abalone? _____

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.)

4. Why were sea otters nearly extinct? _____

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

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

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

Why? _____

7. List two facts about cormorants.

a. _____

b. _____

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

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.)

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.)

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.)

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?

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.

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

19. The Channel Islands are now a marine sanctuary. What does this mean? _____

20. Mr. O'Dell founded the Scott O'Dell award for Historical Fiction.
What percentage, of the 24 winners, have you read?

21. You are required to select one of the O'Dell Award books for a history and literature project.
Describe how you would use the resources at Google books to make a selection.

