

THE CALL OF THE WILD



STUDENT ACTIVITY • REPRODUCIBLE MASTER

Write Your Own Adventure!

In the action-packed movie, *The Call of the Wild*, the main character — a lovable canine named Buck — finds himself on an unexpected journey where he faces danger and obstacles, but eventually emerges as his own master. Based on the literary masterpiece by Jack London, *The Call of the Wild* delivers a heart-stopping adventure story that has become a classic.

Adventure is a genre filled with suspense, danger, plot twists, and daring heroes who embark on life-altering journeys. Ready for a writing adventure? Use these prompts from *The Call of the Wild* as a guide to plan and craft your own thrilling adventure story. Answer each question on the back of this sheet. Then write your tale in the form of a narrative, blog, or series of suspenseful social media posts.

- 1. What exciting event will begin your story?** Hook your reader in with a dramatic or unusual event that propels the action forward. For example, in *The Call of the Wild*, Buck is taken from his warm, comfortable home, unaware of what lies ahead.
- 2. Where does your story take place?** The setting tells your reader where and when the story takes place. It is a critical part of how the action unfolds. *The Call of the Wild* is set during the Yukon Gold Rush of the 1890s where Buck must learn to survive in the extreme wilderness. Think about the setting for your tale. Will it take place during a specific period in history? In your own neighborhood? In a remote jungle filled with dangerous waterfalls and mudslides? In the far reaches of space? Or will it be a fantasy world that you create?
- 3. Who is your story's hero?** Create interesting characters with a particular focus on the hero. In *The Call of the Wild*, Buck is the hero who overcomes many obstacles, such as learning to work as part of a dog sled team. Buck then befriends John Thornton, and the two go on to experience the adventure of a lifetime. How will you bring your characters to life? What does your hero look like? Is your hero a human or an animal? What character traits does your hero possess? Has your hero suffered? What villain(s) or danger will your hero face? How will your hero overcome the odds? Does someone help your hero? Also consider the dialogue, point of view the story is told from, and whether you will have a narrator.
- 4. What conflict does your hero face?** The plot is the action or series of events that happen in your story, including a conflict. Plan a suspenseful plot by building in surprising twists or challenges along your hero's journey. Will your character encounter fierce animals or deceptive villains? What obstacles or dangers does your hero have to overcome? In *The Call of the Wild*, Buck deals with several conflicts, including overcoming being taken from his home and going from being a rookie on the mail sled dog team to its leader. Finally, what climax or turning point will your story take? The climax is when the conflict reaches its highest point — often towards the end.
- 5. What is your story's resolution?** The resolution is your story's conclusion. How will your story wrap up — or resolve — itself? In many adventure stories, the hero undergoes a major transformation. In *The Call of the Wild*, Buck goes from being a domestic dog listening to the voice of man, to listening to his own voice and answering the call of the wild.
- 6. What's a good title for your story?** Think about why *The Call of the Wild* might have gotten this title. Then, don't forget a clever, grabbing title that fits your adventure story!

Think About It Courage and survival are some important themes in *The Call of the Wild*. What themes are important to your adventure story? Do you have a message that you want to convey to the reader?



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Join Buck on the adventure
of a lifetime as he navigates
the Canadian Yukon during
the Gold Rush of the 1890s.

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In theaters
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