



The Hatchet Survival Guide

Chapter 19 & Epilogue

Recommendations: For students in Grades 6-9. First activity can be done inside, final activity must be outside. Adult supervision recommended.

Purpose: Accompany reading a novel with learning some real survival skills

Materials:

- The Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
 - Free online pdf (*contains minor typos*) <https://scotland.k12.mo.us/view/637.pdf>
 - Audio:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5aNp39MQ6RQ&list=PL3Sfhie5HqArYeT62tW4DV4J-nn-4BBn4&index=12>
- Activity Materials will be included with instructions for the specific activities below

Chapter Summaries: Brian revels in the spoils of the supply bag and sends out an emergency signal that is picked up by a nearby plane which suddenly lands on the L-shaped lake to take Brian home. Once home he reflects on old Brian, new Brian, and what will happen next.

Survival Skill 20 –Revisiting Decisions

Complete the chart below, then return to the first activity and compare your answers. Are there any items that you would take now that you didn't choose in the beginning? Are there any that you would leave behind now that you have skills and knowledge to make do without them?

Choose from the list of items below or come up with your own! You can rank the items from most (1) to least (10) important to help you choose:

Hatchet	x	A chocolate Bar		Signal Flare	
Can of crisco shortening		A change of clothes		Hand Sanitizer	

Kingston Whig Standard		Box of Matches		Small Backpack	
A ball of steel wool		Compass		Can of Bug Spray	
Bic Lighter without fluid		5'x 5' Net		-	
Sleeping bag		1 litre bottle of water		-	
Heavy Duty Tarp		50' of rope		-	

Final Survival Activity –Solo Overnight Challenge

Purpose: To amalgamate the skills you have learned by putting them into practice.

Materials:

- Any previous activity instructions, materials, and resources
- Clothing to stay warm
- Small flashlight or headlamp
- Paper and writing utensil
- A place to campout (*back yard works*)

How It Works:

Context: The skills you have learned are helpful in survival situations but also enable you to begin living and learning from the land for years to come. Test yourself by embarking on a solo overnight excursion, a full 24 hours in an outdoor space if you can!

Step 1: Plan ahead! Talk to an adult to make sure they know where you are and how long you'll be out. Have a set plan for communicating in case something comes up.

Step 2: Pay special attention to the weather so that you have the right clothing to stay warm and dry throughout the experience.

Step 3: Make sure you have enough food and a method for cooking/eating it.

Step 4: Review “The Hatchet Survival Activities” posted on the Gould Lake Website and consider any materials you want to prepare for your overnight. Will you hang a windsock? Gather berries? Make some cordage? Pack flint and steel for a fire?

Important: This is not a true survival scenario so there are no set standards, restrictions or requirements. Make sure you have whatever you need to have a good experience out there!

Step 5: Set a time frame and then head out! Some activities like shelter building and cooking over fire will help pass the time while out on your own. Push yourself to stay without any human contact other than what was agreed with your adult. Take some time to reflect and write thoughts about your experience.

Congratulations and thank you for working through The Hatchet Survival Guide!