

# White Fang

Jack London

## A Before Reading

- 1 Most of the story of *White Fang* takes place in an area of north-west Canada, called the Yukon (as shown in the map), around 1900. What do you think life was like in this place? Write your ideas in the table.

The countryside	The weather	Animals living in the Yukon	People living in the Yukon
<i>forest</i>			

Now read page 5-6 of the book to check your ideas.

- 2 Change the order of the letters to make 5 animals/birds which can be found in Canada and which are on pages 5 or 7 of the book.

REBA SOOME LFWO BBRAIT XYLN

Which other animals/birds are mentioned on pages 5 and 7?

3



The picture shows the most important animal in the story, White Fang. What sort of animal is White Fang? Do you think White Fang is male or female? What does he/she eat and drink? Is he/she friendly or unfriendly? Where does he/she live?

As you start reading, check to see if your ideas were correct.

## B While Reading

- 4 a White Fang changes his home many times in the story. As you read, keep a record of where he is living, who he is living with and how he feels in each place.

Where is he living?	Who is he living with?	How does he feel in this place?
<i>In the cave, in the Wild</i>	<i>With his mother, Kiche</i>	<i>He feels safe in the cave and afraid to leave it. As he learns, he starts feeling stronger and excited by the life inside him and the freedom of the Wild.</i>

- b Have you always lived in the same place or have you changed your home? Who have you lived with and where? In which place were you happiest?

- 5 The pictures show two important, but different, moments in the story and the life of White Fang.

Write a paragraph describing how White Fang is feeling and what he is thinking in each picture. Say what he is going to do (or what you think he is going to do) after these two moments.



## C After Reading

- 6 a As a cub, White Fang learns many new things. In the box below, write a list of the things that he learns as he gets older.

Then write a list of things that *you* remember learning when you were a child, in the second box.

What White Fang learns	What you learnt as a child
<i>to hunt for food</i>	<i>to read and write</i>

- b Are the two lists very different? Do young animals and children need to learn some of the same things? What do you think is the best way to learn new things: from a teacher? from parents? from trying and making mistakes? from books or the Internet?

- 7 When Weedon Scott is leaving by boat for Santa Clara and he agrees to take White Fang with him, he says:

*"Goodbye, Matt. You don't need to write to me about the wolf. I'll write to you about him."* (page 48)

Write a letter from Scott to Matt telling him about White Fang's life with him in Santa Clara. Mention:

- how White Fang is changing
- how White Fang saved them from Jim Hall
- Collie and the new puppies

- 8 a Read the sentences below and tick (✓) 'agree', 'disagree' or 'it depends' to show your opinion.

	agree	it depends	disagree
Animals should live in the Wild, not in houses or zoos			
People should never hit or hurt an animal			
Animals are cleverer than people			
People should not eat animals			
Animals become similar in some ways to the person/ people they live with			

- b Choose one of the sentences from the table and write a short paragraph saying why you agree or disagree.