

Directions: The questions may have two parts, so be sure to read each question carefully and answer each question completely. Be sure to use evidence from the story to support your answers.

Part 1

1. After reading chapter 1, make two predictions about the story.

2. Where do you think the story is taking place? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

3. When do you think the story is taking place (past, present, or future)? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

4. In the beginning of chapter 2, Kiri describes several once-were creatures. Can you make inferences as to what any of these animals she describes are? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

5. Why does Kiri decide to eat the turtle soup? Why is she angry at her dad for not doing this?

6. What is most important to Kiri at this point in the story? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.



7. How are Kiri and Snowflake alike? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

8. What connections do you see between Kiri's mother and the panther? Why does the panther allow Kiri to see visions of her mother? Do you think these visions of her mother are simply "fever dreams" or something else?

Part 2

9. Why does Kiri want to find the panther on her own? What reasons does she give Paulo for this?

10. According to Paulo, how are the fugees and wallers different (see page 93)? Who does Kiri seem to agree with more? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

11. Why does Martin (Kiri's dad) want to capture the panther and trade it with the wallers?

12. On page 120 Kiri thinks, "A panther in a cage is no more a panther than water in a bucket is the ocean." What does this mean?



Part 3

13. On page 137 Kiri's mother says, "Without the grass the sand will blow and tear the leaves from the tree. Without the leaves the tree will die. Without the tree the birds will starve. Without the birds the sky will weep. Without the sky the fish can't breathe. Without the fish the people will starve. Nothing stands alone." What do you think Kiri's mother is telling Kiri here? How do you think this will influence what Kiri decides to do with the panther?

14. Why does Charo shoot the panther mother? What are the reasons he gives for this?

15. What does Kiri do to convince Charro to work with the wallers in the end? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

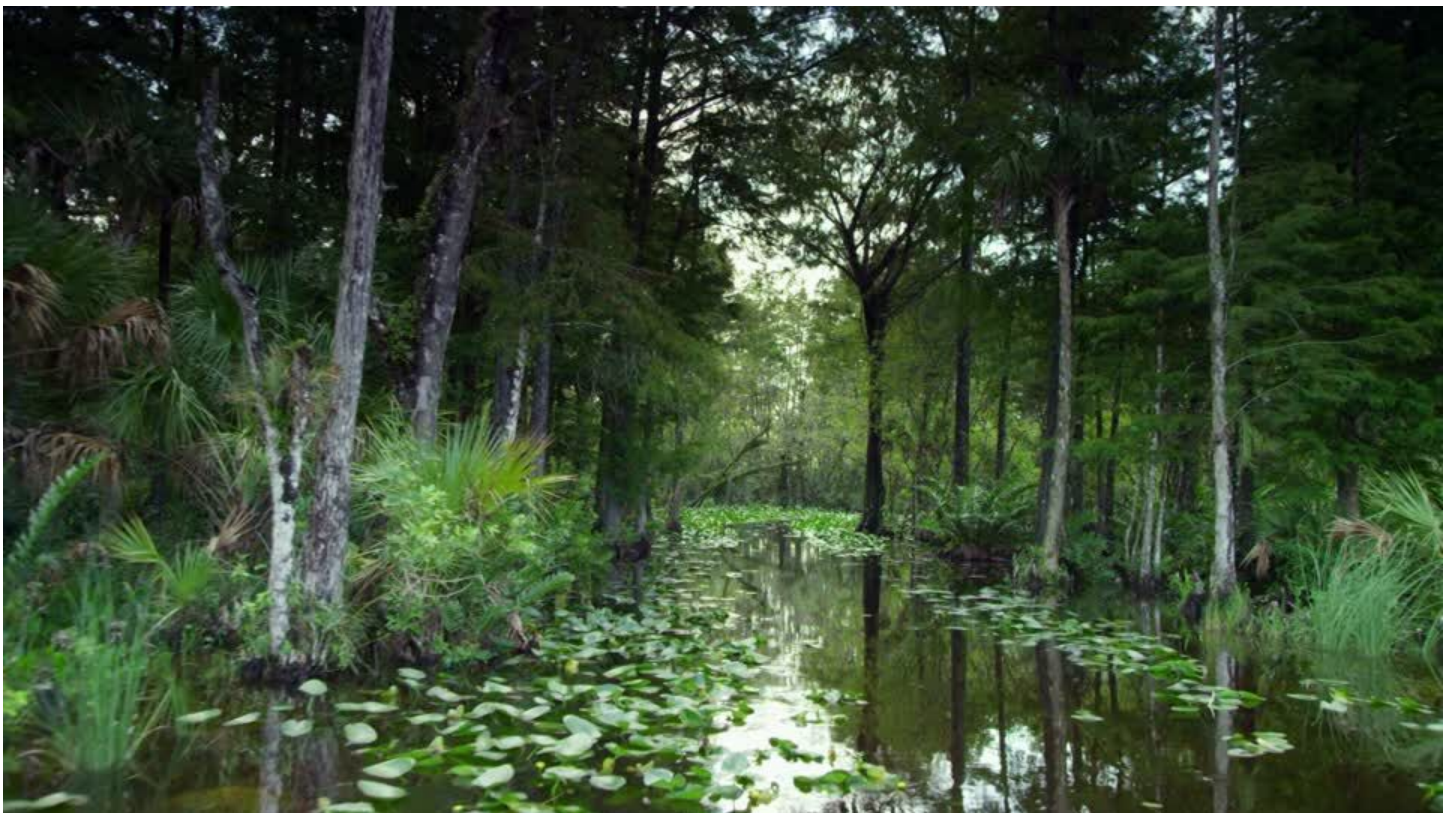
16. On page 229 Kiri tells her da, "We can't hide behind walls, waiting for things to get better. We have to change things now. We have to tend the tree." What does she mean by this? How does this influence what her dad decides to do?

17. What convinces Sonia to go along with the plan and turn the section of the coast into a coastal refuge? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

18. Why does Kiri carve the sea turtle hatchling at the end. What does it say about the villagers that the others start to do this at the end as well?

19. Does Kiri's village seem to change by the end of the story? How is it now different? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

20. Does Kiri seem to change by the end of the story? How is she now different? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.



The Last Panther

By Todd Mitchell



Name: _____

Date due: _____

Date turned in: _____