Study Questions to “Rich in Beauty”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, November–December 2017, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

*Minnesota Conservation Volunteer* magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

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Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing.**

**Find these stories and more online** at www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists.

*Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!*
“Rich in Beauty” Study Questions

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, September–October 2017, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.*

1. Why was John Latsch on the farmer’s land? ______________________________________________________

2. Who bullied Latsch, and how?
   a. A grocery store owner made him work long hours.
   b. A farmer chased him off his property in the rain.
   c. His friend and business agent, Frank Fugina, took his money to buy land.
   d. His family wouldn’t let him buy a car or live in a big house.

3. On the day he got caught in the rain, Latsch was paddling upstream on the Mississippi River. Why is it a smart idea to start a round trip in a canoe by paddling upstream instead of downstream?
   __________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

4. How did John Latsch get the money he used to buy land to share with other people?
   __________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

5. What does it mean that Latsch viewed the Mississippi River corridor as one of America’s great public playgrounds?
   a. He thought that landowners should share their land with other people.
   b. He thought it should be public property so everyone could use it.
   c. He thought it should be filled with climbing bars and swing sets.
   d. He thought it should have more towns like Winona.
6. Why did Latsch tell Frank Fugina to buy land up and down the river?

7. Who was mainly responsible for setting aside land for current and future generations during Latsch’s lifetime?

8. Name five public areas that include land made available through Latsch’s contributions.

9. Why did Latsch donate land?

10. Why did Latsch set up public beaches?

11. True or false: Latsch donated land so other people would like him.

12. Who was Will Dilg?
a. a farmer who chased John Latsch from his property
b. the founder of the Izaak Walton League
c. a Winona artist
d. a Winona storyteller

13. What did Latsch inspire Dilg to do?

14. This article is titled “Rich in Beauty.” Knowing what you know now about John Latsch, what does that mean?
BONUS: The Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge is 261 miles long and covers more than 240,000 acres. If 1 square mile is 640 acres, what is its average width in miles?

_________________

_________________


MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Name ___________________________ Period ____ Date ____________

1. How did Latsch get back at the farmer who treated him poorly?
   a. He bought the farmer’s land.
   b. He bought other land along the Mississippi River.
   c. He donated the land to the public so others could use it in ways he wasn’t able to.
   d. All of the above

2. Why do you think Latsch bought the farmer’s land? __________

   ____________________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________________

3. What evidence is there that Latsch’s actions were part of a larger movement?

   ____________________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________________

4. True or false: The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge once belonged to Latsch._________________

5. The writer describes John Latsch’s house as “modest.” What does that tell us about the house?
   a. It was not very fancy.
   b. It had few windows.
   c. It had been built very recently.
   d. Latsch lived there alone.
**Student Study Guide: Vocabulary cards**

Cut along horizontal lines, fold in the middle and tape or staple. Blanks are provided to allow you or your students to add new words or phrases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottomland</th>
<th>Low-lying land along a river is called</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>When you dike something</strong>, you</td>
<td><strong>When you install a barrier that keeps water away from a certain area</strong>, you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land near a river that becomes covered with water during floods is known as a floodplain</td>
<td><strong>A floodplain</strong> is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone who inherits money or things from another person is known as an heir</td>
<td><strong>An heir</strong> is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When something is lavish it is</td>
<td>When something is full of many fine things, it is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A legacy is</td>
<td>Something left to others from one who came before is</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>To be nestled is</td>
<td>To be tucked cozily is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An island or shallow spot in a river formed by sand carried and deposited by the water is sometimes called</td>
<td>A sandbar is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To spearhead is</td>
<td>To start or take the lead is to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>