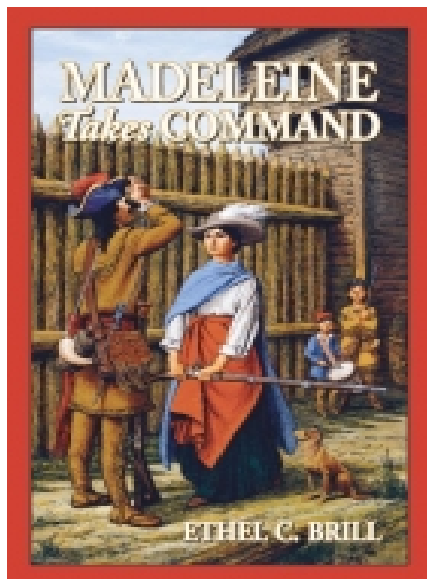


Madeleine Takes Command

by Ethel Brill

Reading Schedule:

- ☐ Tuesday 2/21 in class, read chapter 1 and answer questions
- ☐ Wednesday 2/22 at home, read chapters 2-3 and answer questions
- ☐ Thursday 2/23 in class, read chapter 4 and answer questions
- ☐ Monday 2/27 at home, read chapters 5-6 and answer questions
- ☐ Tuesday 2/28 in class, read chapters 7-8 and answer questions
- ☐ Wednesday 2/29 at home, read chapters 9-10 and answer questions
- ☐ Thursday 3/1 in class, read chapters 11-12 and answer questions
- ☐ Monday 3/5 at home, read chapters 13-14 and answer questions
- ☐ Tuesday 3/6 in class, read chapters 15-16 and answer questions
- ☐ Wednesday 3/7 at home, read chapters 17-19 and answer questions
- ☐ Thursday 3/8 in class, read chapter 20 and Epilogue and answer questions



EVERY DAY – answer at least one of the BEFORE READING questions.

EVERY DAY – answer at least three AFTER READING questions. If it has a * next to it, you must answer that question

Chapter 1 (pp 1-13) – Left to Hold the Fort

Characters:

Setting:

WHERE - _____

WHEN - _____

AFTER READING:

Which brother is more reckless? _____

How old is Madeleine? _____

Where is Madame de Verchères going? _____

How big is the estate (seigneurie)? _____

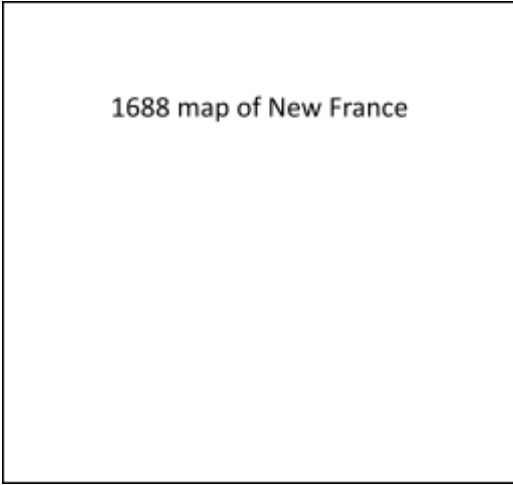
Which Indians invaded Montreal and the surrounding areas in New France?

Who leaves in the canoes with Madame de Verchères? _____

How did the farmers work in the fields if there was a constant threat of an attack by the Indians?

Where is Madeleine's father? _____

What is a bastion?



Chapter 2 (pp 14-26) – Madeleine Assumes Command and Chapter 3 (pp 27-35) - The Story of Father Dollier

Characters:

BEFORE READING:

Write about a really good story teller. Why is he or she your favorite story-teller?

Tell about a time when you had to choose between keeping a promise to a friend and keeping a promise to your family. What did you choose? Why? _____

AFTER READING:

Where is Madeleine's father? _____

Who is the old man who comes into the house? _____

What repair is needed on the palisade? _____

What member of their family was killed the previous year? _____

For a 14-yr-old girl, Madeleine seems to be confident in her authority at the seigneury. Why do you think she is so confident? Does the scripture passage from 2 Timothy 1:7 help you? How?

"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." ~ 2 Timothy 1:7

Who did Louis promise help to? _____

What were Madeleine, Nanette, and Laviolette working together to make today? _____

What story do the boys and Madeleine want Laviolette to tell? _____

In Philippians 4:13, we read, *"I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me."* Another translation is *"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."* (NIV). How does this Scripture passage relate to Father Dollier?

Chapter 4 (pp 36-45) – Louis Deserts His Post

Characters: _____ and _____

BEFORE READING:

If you were an habitant, would you be willing to work for free on the palisade wall? Why or why not?

Tell about a time when you or any of your siblings ever been lost or missing from your family.

AFTER READING:

What is a *corvée*? _____

Why does Madeleine tell Louis that he may not order a *corvée*? _____

Who was Louis with when he disappears? _____

<http://www.uppercanadahistory.ca/finna/finna2.html>



Chapter 5 (pp 46-56) – Madeleine Is Anxious and Chapter 6 (pp 57-66) – The Iroquois

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you or any of your siblings ever been lost or missing from your family.

Tell about a time when you prayed to Mary. What did you ask for? Tell why you knew Mary was the one to ask. _____

AFTER READING:

Why was Madeleine so anxious? _____

Who were the allies to the French? _____

Who cleared the way for the western Indians to trade furs again? _____

Why didn't the men and boys of Verchères just shoot game for food and furs? _____

What did Louis have with him when he returned? _____

Reflect on the Scripture verse Luke 15:24, "*because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.*" Do you see any similarity to this chapter? Why or why not?

What item does Louis give up to Madeleine to show that he is punishing himself? _____

Do you think it might be dangerous for Louis to be without his knife? Why or why not?

What sound did Madeleine and Lavolette hear that made them run back to the stockade? _____

To whom does Madeleine pray for help? _____

"All generations will call me blessed": "The Church's devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship." The Church rightly honors "the Blessed Virgin with special devotion. From the most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been honored with the title of 'Mother of God,' to whose protection the faithful fly in all their dangers and needs. . . . This very special devotion . . . differs essentially from the adoration which is given to the incarnate Word and equally to the Father and the Holy Spirit, and greatly fosters this adoration." The liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and Marian prayer, such as the rosary, an "epitome of the whole Gospel," express this devotion to the Virgin Mary. ~CCC ¶ 971

Does Madeleine's devotion to the Blessed Mother tell you that she is Catholic or Protestant? How can you tell?

Chapter 7 (pp 67-76) – Defense and Chapter 8 (pp 77-84) – The Sortie

Characters:

BEFORE READING:

Think about a time when you disobeyed your parents or another authority figure. When you were caught, how did you feel? Sad? Disappointed in yourself? Ashamed? Angry? Contrite? What did you do about your wrongdoing? _____

Have you ever had to cross a busy street with no crosswalk? Were you scared? Tell what happened.

AFTER READING:

What was Louis doing while the Indians were attacking?

Why do Louis and Madeleine believe that the sentries have deserted them?

How does Madeleine want them to act to let the Indians think that there are more of them than there really are? _____

What happened when Madeleine shot the musket?

What was one of the things Madeleine told the women to do in the blockhouse?

Why did Madeleine walk instead of run to the canoe and back? _____

Did Madeleine's plan to fool the Indians work? _____

What family was in the canoe? _____

What jobs did Madeleine give to the men and boys? _____

Chapter 9 (pp 85-96) – Reinforcement and Chapter 10 (pp 97-105) – Night and Storm

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a person you have known that you could trust completely. Who is it and why are they so trustworthy? _____

Tell about a time when you thought you saw or heard something that scared you. Did it turn out to be nothing? What was it? Why do you think you were scared of it? _____

AFTER READING:

Why was it a good thing that Alexandre (Sandre) played his drum?

What does Fontaine say will save them?

When is the most perilous time? _____

"2 Say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust." 3 God will rescue you from the fowler's snare, from the destroying plague, 4 Will shelter you with pinions, spread wings that you may take refuge; God's faithfulness is a protecting shield. 5 You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day," ~ Psalm 91:4

In spite of her obvious faith in God, do you think Madeleine is afraid going into that first night? Why or why not?

What did Madeleine want to pray for in the chapel?

Why did Madeleine shout, "All is well!" over and over with the others?

Why did they risk letting in the cows?

How did Lavolette know the time from the stars?

Why was the time just before dawn the most dangerous?

Chapter 11 (pp 106-118) – A Long Day and Chapter 12 (pp 119-127) – A Daring Adventure

Characters: _____

BEFORE READING:

Did you ever have a bad dream or nightmare? Tell about it and tell how it made you feel.

Tell about a time when you didn't get enough sleep during the night. How did it make you feel the next day? What did you do about it?

AFTER READING:

Madeleine noticed the smoke from the Indians' fires in the woods. What did she think about there being NO smoke coming from inside the fort?

Where was Marguerite Fontaine born? _____

Where does Marguerite Fontaine want to escape to? _____

Who does Madeleine say should be allowed to rest first and why?

Why did Louis want to chop down the bushes?

Why does Madeleine not want to ask Fontaine to help cut down the bushes?

Why did Laviolette gasp when he was cutting down bushes?

Did Louis and Laviolette get enough bushes cut down to see that side of the palisade clearly? _____

Chapter 13 (pp 128-136) – Waiting and Watching and Chapter 14 (pp 137-143) – The Fire Bearer

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you were worried about your parents (one of them or both). What did you do to calm your worries?

Have you ever witnessed a fire (not a fireplace, but a fire out-of-control)? Was it scary for the people closest to the fire? If you have not witnessed a fire, what do you think you would do if you saw a fire burning out of control?

AFTER READING:

Who brought dinner to Madeleine? _____

Describe the Indian that they noticed on patrol outside the fort.

Where were Madeleine's parents?

How did Louis describe the Mohawks on the third morning? _____

What sounds were they listening for after the sun went down on the overcast sky?

Why didn't Louis shoot the Indian who started the fire the first time (with the musket)?

What did the Indian light on fire? _____

Why did Louis stay in the bastion even though it had been set on fire?

What did they say they need to keep in every bastion from now on? _____

They call out "All is well!" frequently. Do you think this has an effect on their state of mind, even when all is not well?

Chapter 15 (pp 144-153) –The Refugee and Chapter 16 (pp 154-163) – Warning

BEFORE READING:

How do you feel when the weather outside is fierce, windy, and rough?

Tell about a time when you dreaded something awful about to happen. How did you feel while you waited? What did you do to pass the time while you waited? What was the awful thing? Did it turn out to be so awful?

What do you do to get ready for a special occasion, like Easter Sunday Mass or Christmas dinner? Be descriptive!

AFTER READING:

What was Louis' plan to find out if the Mohawk Indians were still watching from the nearby woods?

Who returns to the fort at night? _____

Who else escaped from the Mohawk camp? _____

Where did Antoine go? _____

How much time did they have to wait for the attack? _____

Who is Onontio? _____

How did Antoine and Jacques escape?

Who is the only one who knows how to fire the cannon? _____

Why isn't Alexandre afraid to die?

Chapter 17 (pp 164-170) – Brave Hearts Await the Dawn and Chapter 18 (pp 171-181) – Sounds From the River and Chapter 19 (pp 182-192) – Madeleine Resigns Her Command

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you prayed and felt better immediately after praying.

Have you ever arrived to a destination and found things to be different from the way you expected them to be? How were they different? Was it good or bad that they were different?

Tell about a time when you were really tired and dirty (after camping, hiking, playing outside). How did it feel to get cleaned up and sleep in your bed after that?

AFTER READING:

Why do you think the Indians didn't attack as the mission Indian had said they would?

"God indeed is my salvation; I am confident and unafraid. For the LORD is my strength and my might, and He has been my salvation." ~ Isaiah 12:2

This about the Scripture from Isaiah. How does Madeleine handle being weary and disheartened?

Fontaine and Madeleine discover why the Indians didn't attack the night before... why didn't they?

What was Madeleine worried had happened to Antoine?

What happened to Madeleine when she went in the manor house after midnight to get a bowl of soup?

Who came to get Madeleine? _____

Who arrived at the fort? _____

Who sent La Monnerie? _____

Why is La Monnerie so surprised that only Madeleine (14), Louis (12), Alexandre (10), Lavolette (80), Fontaine, Gatchet, and La Bonté were defending the fort?

How many men did La Monnerie bring with him? _____

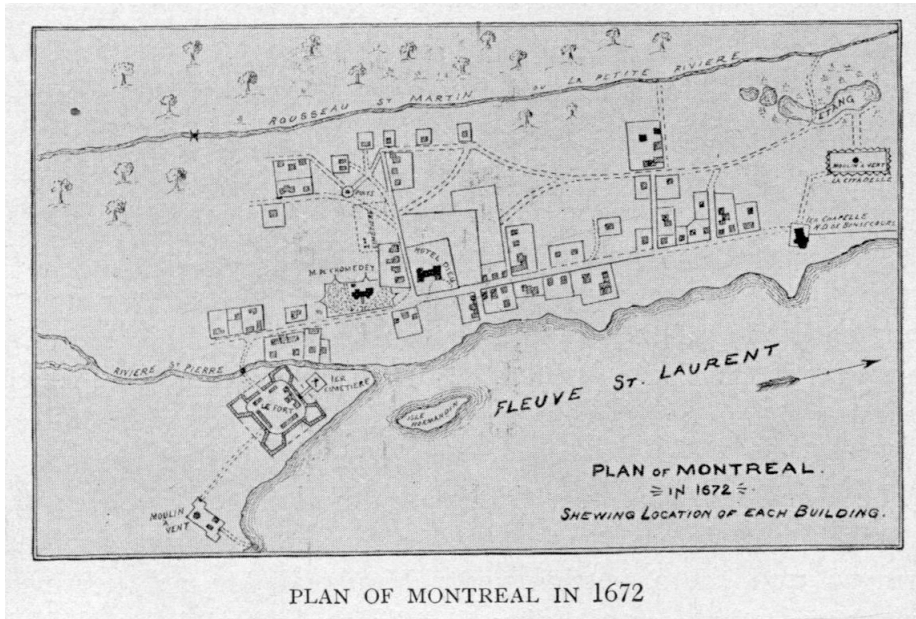
What did Madeleine do for the first time in a week?

Who was rescued and returned? _____

Why doesn't Louis trust the Christian Indians?

What does Madeleine give back to Louis? _____

What does Louis call his sister? _____



Chapter 20 (pp 193-198) – Peace Once Again

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when one or both of your parents were away (either out of the house or on a trip). How did you feel while they were gone? How did you feel when they returned? _____

AFTER READING:

What news did the messenger bring?

How did Madeleine's father find out about the siege and her actions?

Why did Madeleine cry when her mother (Maman) returned?

Optional Special Projects:

- WITH YOUR PARENTS, go to the Internet and look up http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madeleine_de_Verch%C3%A8res or search for Madeleine de Verchères on www.wikipedia.org
- WITH YOUR PARENTS, go to the Internet and look up Seigneurial System of New France on www.wikipedia.org
- WITH YOUR PARENTS, go to maps.google.com and locate Verchères in Canada on the Saint Lawrence River, between Montreal and Quebec
- Build a model of the fort, or draw a picture of what you think it looked like
- If you had your own fort or seigneurie, what would your flag look like? Design a flag and draw it on a large piece of paper, posterboard, or a white pillowcase (with your parent's permission, of course!)

Vocabulary

seigneur = landlord of seigneury or farmland in New France

capote = hooded greatcoat rather like a parka, usually worn with a sash around the waist, popular with habitants of New France and French Canadian traders and trappers. The word is derived from the French word for "cape."

seigneury = long narrow strip of land extending off the Saint Lawrence River

- The seigneurial system was introduced to [New France](#) in 1627 by [Cardinal Richelieu](#). Under this system, the lands were arranged in long narrow strips, called *seigneuries*, along the banks of the [St. Lawrence River](#). Each piece of land belonged to the [king of France](#) and was maintained by the landlord, or *seigneur*.
- The seigneurial system was introduced because the St. Lawrence River was something like the "Highway of New France". The river provided water and a means of transportation, which enabled settlers with land along the St. Lawrence to be successful. Land along the river, therefore, was much in demand.

garrison = a body of troops stationed in a particular location for the purpose of guarding it

habitants = tenants on the seigneury land

stockade = simple forms of defense of military camps or settlements

bastion = structure projecting outward from the main enclosure of a fortification, situated in both corners of a straight wall

mademoiselle (Ma'm'selle) = The French-language equivalent of "miss" (*ma* = "my" + *demoiselle* = "little lady" or "my girl")

sieur = a title for the seigneur, or lord

adjacent = _____

palisade = typically a fence or wall made from wooden stakes and used as a defensive structure

stalwart = an adjective synonymous with "strong"

rheumatism = a non-specific term for medical problems affecting the joints and connective tissue

monsieur (messieurs (M'sieu))= *mon sieur*, literally "my lord"

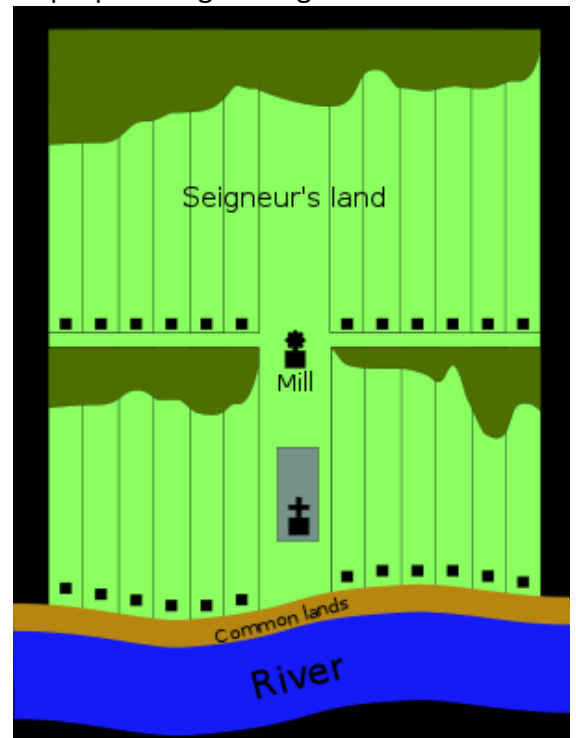
_____ = _____

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ANSWER KEY:

Chapter 1 (pp 1-13) – Left to Hold the Fort

Characters: Madame de Verchères, Madeleine (14), Alexandre (10), Louis (12), Jean, Angélique, Cathérine, Sieur François Jarret de Verchères (Seigneur), Nanette, Gatchet, LaBonté

Setting:

WHERE - a manor house on the Saint Lawrence River in New France; country estate (seigneurie)

WHEN – October 1692

AFTER READING:

Which brother is more reckless? Louis

How old is Madeleine? 14

Where is Madame de Verchères going? Montreal

How big is the estate (seigneurie)? 18 square miles

Which Indians invaded Montreal and the surrounding areas in New France? Iroquois, Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas,

Who leaves in the canoes with Madame de Verchères? Jean, Angelique, Catherine, and the neighboring seigneur

How did the farmers work in the fields if there was a constant threat of an attack by the Indians? They all work together in one field, not just their own. They have military guards with them. They cooperate and work together, moving together from field to field.

Where is Madeleine's father? It doesn't say!

What is a bastion?

1688 map of New France

http://digilander.libero.it/debibliotheca/Arte/Vincenzo%20Caronelli_file/page_01.htm



Chapter 2 (pp 14-26) – Madeleine Assumes Command

Characters: Laviolette, Jacques Brunet & his father (blacksmith), Antoine (habitant with hurt leg), François (brother who was killed at age 16 by Indians)

BEFORE READING:

Write about a really good story teller. Why is he or she your favorite story-teller?

AFTER READING:

Where is Madeleine's father? Enlisted in military service until released by Governor de Frontenac

Who is the old man who comes to the seigneurie? Laviolette

What repair is needed on the palisade? Some of the pickets are rotted and need replacing

What member of their family was killed the previous year? François (16-yr-old brother)

For a 14-yr-old girl, Madeleine seems to be confident in her authority at the seigneurie. Why do you think she is so confident? Does the scripture passage from 2 Timothy 1:7 help you? How?

"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." ~ 2 Timothy 1:7

Chapter 3 (pp 27-35) - The Story of Father Dollier

Characters: Father Dollier

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you had to choose between keeping a promise to a friend and keeping a promise to your family. What did you choose? Why? _____

AFTER READING:

Who did Louis promise help to? Jacques Brunet

What were Madeleine, Nanette, and Laviolette working together to make today? bread

What story do the boys and Madeleine want Laviolette to tell? About Father Dollier at Ste. Anne

In Philippians 4:13, we read, "I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me." Another translation is "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (NIV). How does this Scripture passage relate to Father Dollier?

Chapter 4 (pp 36-45) – Louis Deserts His Post

Characters: Antoine Giffard and Marie (his fiancée)

BEFORE READING:

If you were an habitant, would you be willing to work for free on the palisade wall? Why or why not?

AFTER READING:

What is a *corvée*? the legal right of the seigneur to a limited amount of free labor from his tenants or habitants.

Why does Madeleine tell Louis that he may not order a *corvée*? Because in France (not New France), seigneurs abused this right and were oppressive in their use of tenants and habitants.

Who was Louis with when he disappears? Jacques Brunet

Chapter 5 (pp 46-56) – Madeleine Is Anxious

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you or any of your siblings ever been lost or missing from your family.

AFTER READING:

Why was Madeleine so anxious? So many people had been attacked and killed or taken prisoner by the Iroquois

Who were the allies to the French? Algonquin, Huron, and Ottawa Indians

Why were the settlers near Montreal unable to trade furs with their Indian allies? The other Indians were afraid of the Iroquois and wouldn't go near Montreal

Who cleared the way for the western Indians to trade furs again? Governor de Frontenac

Why didn't the men and boys of Verchères just shoot game for food and furs? Ammunition had to be spared to defend the people at the estate.

What did Louis have with him when he returned? fish for dinner

Reflect on the Scripture verse Luke 15:24, "because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found." Do you see any similarity to this chapter? Why or why not? _____

Chapter 6 (pp 57-66) – The Iroquois

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you prayed to Mary. What did you ask for? Tell why you knew Mary was the one to ask. _____

AFTER READING:

What item does Louis give up to Madeleine to show that he is punishing himself? his knife

Do you think it might be dangerous for Louis to be without his knife? Why or why not?

What sound did Madeleine and Laviolette hear that made them run back to the stockade? musket shot

To whom does Madeleine pray for help? “Blessed Virgin, Mother Mary”

“All generations will call me blessed”: "The Church's devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian worship." The Church rightly honors "the Blessed Virgin with special devotion. From the most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been honored with the title of 'Mother of God,' to whose protection the faithful fly in all their dangers and needs. . . . This very special devotion . . . differs essentially from the adoration which is given to the incarnate Word and equally to the Father and the Holy Spirit, and greatly fosters this adoration." The liturgical feasts dedicated to the Mother of God and Marian prayer, such as the rosary, an "epitome of the whole Gospel," express this devotion to the Virgin Mary. ~CCC ¶ 971

Does Madeleine's devotion to the Blessed Mother tell you that she is Catholic or Protestant? How can you tell?

Chapter 7 (pp 67-76) – Defense

BEFORE READING:

Think about a time when you disobeyed your parents or another authority figure. When you were caught, how did you feel? Sad? Disappointed in yourself? Ashamed? Angry? Contrite? What did you do about your wrongdoing? _____

AFTER READING:

What was Louis doing while the Indians were attacking? guarding the gap in the wall left by the rotten pickets

Why do Louis and Madeleine believe that the sentries have deserted them? They haven't shot a musket or cannon since the Indians began their attack.

How does Madeleine want them to act to let the Indians think that there are more of them than there really are? by putting their gun through one hole to shoot, then another, and by shouting and talking to themselves.

What happened when Madeleine shot the musket? she nearly fell down because of the recoil of the gun. She was used to shooting with a pistol, which is smaller.

Chapter 8 (pp 77-84) – The Sortie

Characters: Pierre Fontaine, his wife, his 3 children (Anne, a boy, and Marie)

BEFORE READING:

Have you ever had to cross a busy street with no crosswalk? Were you scared? Tell what happened.

AFTER READING:

What was one of the things Madeleine told the women to do in the blockhouse? Stop crying, clean and load weapons, laugh and act like there's nothing to be afraid of to fool the enemy.

Why did Madeleine walk instead of run to the canoe and back? To make the Indians think it was a trick to draw them closer to the range of the muskets inside the fort.

Did Madeleine's plan to fool the Indians work? yes, until the girl and her brother ran

What family was in the canoe? Pierre Fontaine, his wife and 3 children (Anne, boy, Marie)

What jobs did Madeleine give to the men and boys? La Bonté was in the bastion with the cannon, Laviolette and Louis were in the other bastion; Gatchet and Alexandre were patrolling the palisade walls.

Chapter 9 (pp 85-96) – Reinforcement

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a person you have known that you could trust completely. Who is it and why are they so trustworthy? _____

AFTER READING:

Why was it a good thing that Alexandre (Sandre) played his drum? Because it tricked the Indians into thinking that an army of soldiers was about to march out.

What does Fontaine say will save them? "Not our strength but our wits must save us."

When is the most perilous time? night

"2 Say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust." 3 God will rescue you from the fowler's snare, from the destroying plague, 4 Will shelter you with pinions, spread wings that you may take refuge; God's faithfulness is a protecting shield. 5 You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day," ~ Psalm 91:4

In spite of her obvious faith in God, do you think Madeleine is afraid going into that first night? Why or why not?

Chapter 10 (pp 97-105) – Night and Storm

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you thought you saw or heard something that scared you. Did it turn out to be nothing? What was it? Why do you think you were scared of it?

AFTER READING:

What did Madeleine want to pray for in the chapel? delivery of the seignury out of the hands of the enemy; strength and courage for her brothers and herself

Why did Madeleine shout, "All is well!" over and over with the others? To make the Indians think that a full garrison was on patrol.

Why did they risk letting in the cows? They might be needed for milk or meat, and Laviolette thought that if Indians were near enough to try to sneak in with the cows that the cows would be spooked and not grazing calmly.

How did Laviolette know the time from the stars? The stars are in certain positions at certain times and can help tell the time. People at the time knew the stars well.

Why was the time just before dawn the most dangerous? That is the "favorite time" for the Mohawks to attack

Chapter 11 (pp 106-118) – A Long Day

Characters: Marguerite (Pierre Fontaine's wife)

BEFORE READING:

Did you ever have a bad dream or nightmare? Tell about it and tell how it made you feel.

Tell about a time when you didn't get enough sleep during the night. How did it make you feel the next day? What did you do about it?

AFTER READING:

Madeleine noticed the smoke from the Indians' fires in the woods. What did she think about there being NO smoke coming from inside the fort? She worried that the Indians would think there aren't as many there to defend the fort.

Where was Marguerite Fontaine born? Paris

Where does Marguerite Fontaine want to escape to? Sorel, one of the king's forts

Who does Madeleine say should be allowed to rest first and why? Lavolette and Alexandre, because they are the oldest and youngest.

Why did Louis want to chop down the bushes? Because it would be too easy for the Indians to sneak up under cover of the bushes and get close enough to the palisade wall to set it on fire.

Chapter 12 (pp 119-127) – A Daring Adventure

BEFORE READING:

AFTER READING:

Why does Madeleine not want to ask Fontaine to help cut down the bushes? Because it is dangerous and if he were killed or captured, he would be leaving behind a family.

Why did Lavolette gasp when he was cutting down bushes? he slipped and fell in the gully

Did Louis and Lavolette get enough bushes cut down to see that side of the palisade clearly? yes

Chapter 13 (pp 128-136) – Waiting and Watching

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you were worried about your parents (one of them or both). What did you do to calm your worries?

AFTER READING:

Who brought dinner to Madeleine? Nanette

Describe the Indian that they noticed on patrol outside the fort. “tall, broad-shouldered fellow, fantastically painted with zigzag stripes of red and black and with a bunch of red feathers in his scalp lock.”

Where were Madeleine’s parents? Her father is in Quebec and her mother is either in Montreal or on her way back from Montreal.

How did Louis describe the Mohawks on the third morning? “pack of cowards”

Chapter 14 (pp 137-143) – The Fire Bearer

BEFORE READING:

Have you ever witnessed a fire (not a fireplace, but a fire out-of-control)? Was it scary for the people closest to the fire? If you have not witnessed a fire, what do you think you would do if you saw a fire burning out of control?

AFTER READING:

What sounds were they listening for after the sun went down on the overcast sky? footsteps, rattling weapons

Why didn’t Louis shoot the Indian who started the fire the first time (with the musket)? The musket mis-fired and he had to try to shoot him with a pistol

What did the Indian light on fire? the bastion that Louis was in

Why did Louis stay in the bastion even though it had been set on fire? He thought it was a distraction, so he stayed to watch out the loophole windows

What did they say they need to keep in every bastion from now on? water

They call out “All is well!” frequently. Do you think this has an effect on their state of mind, even when all is not well?

Chapter 15 (pp 144-153) –The Refugee

BEFORE READING:

How do you feel when the weather outside is fierce, windy, and rough?

Tell about a time when you dreaded something awful about to happen. How did you feel while you waited? What did you do to pass the time while you waited? What was the awful thing? Did it turn out to be so awful?

AFTER READING:

What was Louis' plan to find out if the Mohawk Indians were still watching from the nearby woods? He put a pumpkin on a stick with a soldier's hat on top of it and walked it along so that it barely showed over the palisade wall. When the Mohawks fired at the "head," they knew they were still out there and they could not relax their vigilance.

Who returns to the fort at night? Jacques Brunet

Who else escaped from the Mohawk camp? Antoine

Where did Antoine go? to Sorel to get help for Verchères

How much time did they have to wait for the attack? Only 5-6 hours

Chapter 16 (pp 154-163) – Warning

BEFORE READING:

What do you do to get ready for a special occasion, like Easter Sunday Mass or Christmas dinner? Be descriptive!

AFTER READING:

Who is Onontio? Governor de Frontenac

How did Antoine and Jacques escape? Antoine burned his ropes on a coal from the fire and then untied Jacques – at night when they weren't being watched

Who is the only one who knows how to fire the cannon? La Bonté

Why isn't Alexandre afraid to die? "Father Dollier says God is merciful to those who are brave and do their best."

Chapter 17 (pp 164-170) – Brave Hearts Await the Dawn

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you prayed and felt better immediately after praying.

AFTER READING:

Why do you think the Indians didn't attack as the mission Indian had said they would?

"God indeed is my salvation; I am confident and unafraid. For the LORD is my strength and my might, and he has been my salvation." ~ Isaiah 12:2

How does Madeleine handle being weary and disheartened? She goes to the chapel to pray for strength and courage

Fonatine and Madeleine discover why the Indians didn't attack the night before... why didn't they? Because the extra Indians who were traveling to come help hadn't arrived yet

What was Madeleine worried had happened to Antoine? she was worried that he had been killed or captured, but had not reached Sorel to get help

Chapter 18 (pp 171-181) – Sounds From the River

BEFORE READING:

Have you ever arrived to a destination and found things to be different from the way you expected them to be? How were they different? Was it good or bad that they were different?

AFTER READING:

What happened to Madeleine when she went in the manor house after midnight to get a bowl of soup? She fell asleep!

Who came to get Madeleine? Jacques

Who arrived at the fort? Monsieur de la Monnerie and his men

Who sent La Monnerie? the governor – De Callières

Why is La Monnerie so surprised that only Madeleine, Louis, Alexandre, Laviolette, Fontaine, Gatchet, and La Bonté were defending the fort? Because Madame de Verchères thought there were 10 militiamen there to guard them, not only the 2 who were left.

Chapter 19 (pp 182-192) – Madeleine Resigns Her Command

BEFORE READING:

Tell about a time when you were really tired and dirty (after camping, hiking, playing outside). How did it feel to get cleaned up and sleep in your bed after that?

AFTER READING:

How many men did La Monnerie bring with him? 40

What did Madeleine do for the first time in a week? took a hot bath, dressed up for dinner, combed her hair

Who was rescued and returned? Antoine

Why doesn't Louis trust the Christian Indians? Because one of them relished in the notion of the attack on the fort when he spoke to Antoine and Jacques at the Mohawk camp

What does Madeleine give back to Louis? His hunting knife

What does Louis call his sister? "Mon capitaine"

Chapter 20 (pp 193-198) – Peace Once Again

BEFORE READING:

AFTER READING:

What news did the messenger bring? Madame de Verchères was returning the next day

How did Madeleine's father find out about the siege and her actions? Pierre Fontaine and his wife went to Quebec and told him about her bravery and their actions.

Why did Madeleine cry when her mother (Maman) returned? She knew she felt safe

Optional Special Project:

With your parents, go to the Internet and look up

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madeleine_de_Verch%C3%A8res or search for Madeleine de Verchères on www.wikipedia.org.

Go to maps.google.com and locate Verchères in Canada on the Saint Lawrence River, between Montreal and Quebec.