

7th Grade Interdisciplinary Summer Project: Island of the Blue Dolphin by Scott O'Dell

Options of ways to access the novels: Homestead Cybrarium, Hoopla website: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/>, Library, Purchase from school- First come first serve, Purchase book from book store- Barnes and Nobles, Amazon, etc.

Due Date	August 13-14, 2026			
Theme	"Survival, Resilience, and the Relationship Between Humans and Nature"			
Essential Question	How does nature challenge, support, and shape human survival?			
Project Overview	In Island of the Blue Dolphins, Karana survives alone on an island by learning to adapt, problem-solve, and live in harmony with nature. Students will explore survival skills, resilience, environmental awareness, and human interaction with the natural world through activities connected to:			
Subjects Integrated	ELA	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
Learning Objectives	Analyze Relationships with Animals and Nature	Solve mathematical and real-world problems involving dimensions and areas of geometric figures, including scale drawings and scale factors.	Survival Science Poster	Historical research, Geography, Cultural understanding, and Comparing fiction and history.
Activity	Write 3–5 journal entries describing: Challenges Karana faces How she survives Her emotions and growth Her relationship with animals and nature	Island Mapping: Create a scale map of the island including: -Shelter -Water source -Hunting areas -Canoe location <i>Use:</i> Measurement Scale Distance calculations Students must draw thw scale map turn in the drawing	Students will observe nature and show how plants and animals survive and adapt, based on Island of the Blue Dolphins. They will collect simple observations and turn them into a poster with short notes, drawings, or pictures. The poster will explain how living things use their environment to survive.	Create an informational poster on food gathering and hunting. Include the following: At least 3 facts Maps or illustrations Connection between history and the novel

Final Authentic Product must be hand written and be presented on August 13th/14th, 2026.

Rubric				
Category	4 – Excellent	3 – Good	2 – Developing	1 – Beginning
ELA	Detailed, creative journal entries	Clear writing with evidence	Limited details	Incomplete
Math	Accurate calculations/graphs/maps	Mostly accurate	Some errors	Incomplete
Social Studies	Strong historical research	Good information	Limited details	Incomplete
Science	Accurate scientific explanations	Mostly accurate	Some inaccuracies	Incomplete
Presentation	Creative, organized, polished	Organized	Some organization	Difficult to follow