

## **Island of the Blue Dolphins**

By Scott O'Dell

Choose one project from the following list. As a summary of the novel, show a complete understanding of the book but being very thorough with your work. Effort is what counts. Be unique, precise, and clear.

### **Project List**

Choose one of the listed projects and tell Mr D.

Projects are ***due for presentation Friday, December 19th***

1. Create a detailed replica of the island as described by Karana chapter 2 or 3, include a map of the whole area.
2. Create an island you would prefer to be marooned on. Specify latitude and longitude, vegetation, topography, weather, and animals. Illustrate your island.
3. Dress as one of the major characters and portray and present his or her point of view. The speech should be done in first person and should be 4-5 minutes in length. Tell their story with detail explaining what their life may have been like on the island. This assignment can be video taped and handed-in or done in class. Do a write up with this.
4. Design a movie poster advertising a movie about Island of the Blue Dolphins.
5. Create, build, sculpt, carve the artifacts described in the book, and include some jewelry pieces. Include a minimum of 6 artifacts and present them as part of a display. Include labels and use for the artifact.
6. Create a summary of the novel using illustrations. This can be made using a computer or by hand or a combination of both.
7. Compare the qualities and personality of Karana with another teacher approved hero or heroine. Include similarities and differences. A minimum of 12 comparisons should be made. An example is a comparison to Robin Crusoe.

8. Put together a survival kit that would have necessities needed if you got lost in nature or stranded in an unknown location. The kit should have a minimum of 8 items. Include your reason for making it part of your survival kit.
9. Create a wall poster showing all the marine life near the island. A minimum of 5 animals including labels, an interesting fact and description of each need to be included.
10. Research the Chumash Culture. Include information about where they are from, their way of life, their diet, etc.
11. Complete a diary/journal with a minimum of 8 entries describing Karana's adventure. Include feelings/emotions that Karana may have experienced. You may also add drawings to go with your journal entries. Use the first person singular (I).
12. Research the Spanish Missions and their history. Include their purpose and how they help people.
13. Research and Write a biography on the real Karana.
14. Design a travel brochure advertising the Island of the Blue Dolphins. Include all land forms, accommodations and their locations. Include wildlife and habitat.
15. Design a website or power point presentation advertising San Nicholas Island.
16. Write a song. Base the lyrics on the novel and the tune on a familiar song. Include the name of the original song when you hand in your song.
17. Conduct a news interview of Karana. The interview can be video taped and handed-in or done in class. The interview should be 4-5 min long.
18. Imagine that you are a TV script writer and one of the networks has decided to create a series based on this novel. Write the outline for one episode (taken from

the novel, or from your imagination). Include not only dialogue, but visual images you would like to capture on film.

19. You are a newspaper reporter. Write an account of one of the following: The arrival of Karana at the mission. Include a headline, what happened, who was involved, when, where, why, and some bystander quotes.
20. Write the dialogue between Karana and Fr Gonzales after she returns to the Mission.
21. Describe Karana from the points of view of four people who know her: Tutok, Ulape, Rama, Chief Chowig
22. Respond to the novel by writing a poem.
23. Write a flashback scene to an earlier time that didn't appear in the novel, but might have – such a scene showing the men making weapons with Karana looking on.
24. Come up with your own chapter titles for each chapter. (These titles often refer to a key episode in the chapter, a phrase found in each chapter, or a new character who appears in the chapter.)
25. Stage a TV interview with some of the central characters in the story. Ramo, Tutok, Karana, Chief Chowig Create a list of interview questions (e.g. “Karana what did you have to do wto build a house to shelter you from the elements? How did you show that she had the skills to build a home?” To train a dog? To survive? Retell an episode from the viewpoint of Karana, Ramo, Ulape.
26. Write an imaginary dialogue between yourself and one of the characters in the novel.
27. Create a mural/comic strip showing important scenes from the novel.
28. Create a triptych (6 panels) showing your impressions of Karana – looking at the war scene after the battle where the chief and many tribesmen were killed, on the ship looking for Ramo who was on the cliffs, the burning of the village huts, standing looking proudly at her newly build home, at Meeting Tutok, Her rescue from the island.

29. Create a mobile showing objects of significance to the story. The tools Karana needed to build to survive and protect herself.
30. Create a shoebox diorama showing memorable scene from the story – – looking at the war scene after the battle where the chief and many tribesmen were killed, on the ship looking for Ramo who was on the cliffs, the burning of the village huts, standing looking proudly at her newly build home, at Meeting Tutok, Her rescue from the island.
31. Write a ballad about the life of Karana and perform this on video or before the class.
32. Design and create your own project, but you must first get your ideas approved by Mr. D.