Bradford Washburn
by Jeri Cipriano

Summary
Bradford Washburn had a remarkable life as a mountain climber, photographer, and mapmaker. Throughout his life, Washburn was a leader among his community of fellow mountain climbers and explorers. His achievements include exploring mountains, mapping them, and taking remarkable photographs of the places he explored.

Before Reading

Building Background
Build background by allowing students to look at images on the cover and inside the book. Then preview and preteach vocabulary words.

Vocabulary
peak, photographs, explore

English Language Learners
Read the text aloud, pausing frequently to clarify meaning, especially of vocabulary. Note how knowing the definition of one form of a word can help students figure out the meaning of another form of the word. Discuss how adding suffixes can change the meaning of a word.

Target Reading Skill: Generalize
When reading a biography it can be helpful to make generalizations about a person’s life. A generalization is a broad statement, conclusion, or big idea based on specific facts and details.

Draw a Generalize graphic organizer on the board with the following example:

Fact: Lee likes to hike.
Fact: Lee likes camping.
Fact: Lee likes bird-watching.
Generalization: Lee likes the outdoors.

Have students copy the Generalize graphic organizer before they have read the book or provide them with a Generalize organizer to use. Help students complete the Reading Skill activity on the inside cover of their Readers.

During Reading

Think Critically
1. What kinds of things did Bradford Washburn like to do when he was young? (He liked to climb. He liked to make maps.)
2. Why can it be dangerous to climb mountains in Alaska? (Climbers can die from the cold.)
3. What made Washburn a good climber? (He was careful.)
4. Why do you think Washburn was a hero to other climbers? (He climbed many mountains. He showed people safer ways to explore.)

After Reading

Writing
Ask students to look at the list of facts they made about Bradford Washburn. Tell them to pick three facts. What do the facts have in common? Are they all about Washburn’s childhood? Or are they about his mountain climbing or writing? Students should write down a generalization about Bradford Washburn based on those three facts. Provide help to those students who have a generalization but find it hard to write down.

Answers to Target Reading Skill
Sample generalization: Washburn was a great mountain climber. Facts that support this generalization: Washburn first climbed a mountain at age 11; Washburn climbed three huge mountains in Europe at age 16; Washburn did not give up when he did not reach the peak of Mount Fairweather.
Bradford Washburn
Mountain Climber
by Jeri Cipriano

Summary
Bradford Washburn (1910–2007) was a remarkable mountaineer, photographer, and mapmaker. Washburn was a leader among his community of mountain climbers and explorers. Born in 1910, Washburn became an avid mountaineer at an early age. His achievements include the exploration of mountains in Alaska and northern Canada, making detailed maps of the Grand Canyon, taking remarkable photographs of mountains, and organizing an expedition to determine the exact height of Mount Everest.

Before Reading
Building Background
Build background for the book by allowing students to preview the images, captions, and headings throughout. Then preview and preteach the vocabulary words with them.

Vocabulary
explore, geography, sea level, expedition, achievement

English Language Learners
Read the text aloud, pausing frequently to clarify meaning. Note how knowing the definition of one form of a word can help students figure out the meaning of another form. Discuss how adding suffixes changes meaning.

Target Reading Skill: Generalize
Sometimes authors give facts and details about a person and expect readers to make generalizations. A generalization is a statement or big idea that is based on specific facts or examples.

Create a generalization graphic organizer on the board with the following example:
Fact: Lee likes to go hiking.
Fact: Lee likes to go camping.
Fact: _______________.
Generalization: Lee likes the outdoors.

Ask the class for another fact that supports the generalization. (Example: Lee likes to go biking.) Have students copy the organizer after they have read the book or provide them with one. Allow students time to complete the Reading Skill activity on the inside cover of their Readers.

During Reading
Think Critically
1. What did Bradford Washburn accomplish when he was young? (He climbed his first mountain at age 11.)
2. What traits made Washburn a good climber? (He was careful but not foolhardy.)
3. Why do you think Washburn climbed mountains even though it could be dangerous? (He loved exploring new places.)
4. In what way did Washburn encourage other climbers? (He gave advice about how to be safe.)

After Reading
Writing
Ask students to write a letter that Bradford Washburn might write to his grandchildren encouraging them to do what they love best. They should use his life as an example.

Answers to Target Reading Skill
Sample generalization: Washburn was always an explorer. Facts: Washburn climbed a huge mountain at age 11; Washburn climbed three huge mountains in Europe at 16; Later, Washburn climbed mountains in Alaska and northern Canada.
Bradford Washburn
Exploring Alaska’s Mountains
by Jeri Cipriano

Summary
Bradford Washburn (1910–2007) was a remarkable mountaineer, aerial photographer, cartographer, and science educator, as well as a leader among his community of mountain climbers and explorers. Born in 1910 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Washburn became an avid mountaineer at an early age. His achievements include leading expeditions in the mountains of Alaska and northern Canada, making detailed maps, and taking remarkable aerial photographs.

Before Reading
Build background for the book by allowing students to preview the book. Make sure students are familiar with key concepts and key vocabulary words. Discuss genre.

Vocabulary
explore, geography, sea level, mountain range, expedition, glacier

English Language Learners
Read selected text aloud, pausing frequently to clarify meaning, especially of vocabulary. Note how knowing the definition of one form of a word can help students figure out the meaning of another form of the same word. Discuss how adding suffixes changes the meaning.

Target Reading Skill: Generalize
A generalization is a conclusion or big idea you make based on specific facts and details.

Draw a generalization graphic organizer on the board with the following example:
Fact: Lee likes to go camping.
Fact: Lee likes to go bird-watching in the woods.
Fact: __________________.
Generalization: Lee likes the outdoors.

Ask the class to think of two other supporting facts that would support the idea that Lee likes the outdoors.

Have students copy the graphic organizer after they have read the book. Allow students time to complete the Reading Skill activity on the inside cover of their Readers.

During Reading
Think Critically
1. What was Bradford Washburn like when he was young? (He loved learning about the outdoors. He gave advice to readers.)
2. What traits made Washburn a good leader on expeditions? (He was brave and careful.)
3. How did Washburn help people better understand the world? (He climbed unexplored mountains. He made detailed maps and he took amazing photographs.)

After Reading
Writing
Ask students to imagine they went mountain climbing in Alaska. Have them write about what they experienced.

Answers to Target Reading Skill
Sample generalization: Washburn was a great explorer. Facts: Washburn led many expeditions; Washburn wrote books about his experiences; Washburn took photos of unexplored mountains.