“The Stone” by Lloyd Alexander

Pre-Reading:

Vocab Chart

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| --- | --- |
| **Codger (868):** an older fellow.  **Rue (p.871):** regret.  **Wretch (p. 871):** someone who causes trouble and is annoying.  **Vainly (p. 873):** unsuccessfully. | **Belabored (p. 874):** to hit repeatedly.  **Avail (p. 874):** benefit.  **Mired (p. 874):** stuck.  **Laden (p. 875):** weighted down. |

Prediction Chart

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| What’s your prediction? | Text evidence. | What happened in the story? | Was your prediction correct? |
| #1 |  |  |  |
| #2 |  |  |  |
| #3 |  |  |  |

Post-Reading:

1. How does Maibon get the stone?
2. How does the stone cause problems for Maibon, his family, and his farm?
3. What happens when Maibon tries to throw the stone?
4. Why can’t Maibon get rid of the stone?
5. What is the climax, or turning point of the story?
6. Choose a word from the story that you do not know. Use context clues to define that word.
7. Characterize Maibon. In other words, what are his character traits? Does his character change in the story? Why or why not?
8. Many advertisements promote youthfulness. Do you think this is a good message? Why or why not?
9. How is the wife’s reaction to Maibon’s wish similar to or different from the woodsman’s reaction in “The Three Wishes?”



1. Would you have given up the stone? Explain.