Native American Literature Discussion Questions

Hidden Roots by Joseph Bruchac

Submitted by Dorothea M. Susag for OPI library project

- 1. What is the tribal culture and landscape, as well as cultural specifics of the people, as portrayed in *Hidden Roots*?
- 2. How have past and present lives of the Abenaki people been impacted by federal and state Indian policies?
- 3. What is the most significant conflict in the novel? How or when is it resolved?
- 4. Why is Howard's father angry and sometimes abusive? Is his anger justified?
- 5. How has Howard changed from the beginning of the novel to the end?
- 6. Identify episodes that may contradict popular stereotypes of Indians.
- 7. Identify a line or section that demonstrates insight or wisdom.
- 8. Why has Uncle Louis kept his relationship to Howard a secret?
- 9. How does the Author's Note expand the reader's understanding of the novel?