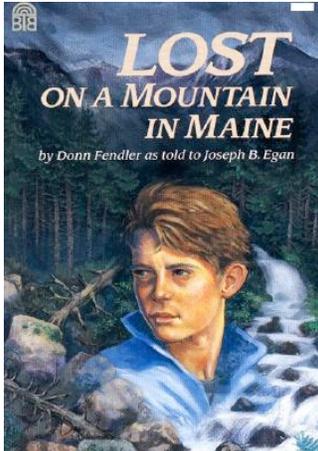


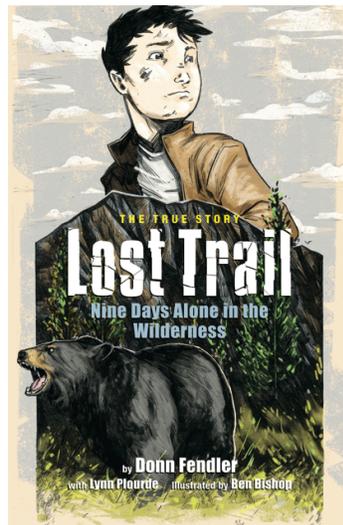
# THE DONN FENDLER STORY

## COMPARE & CONTRAST

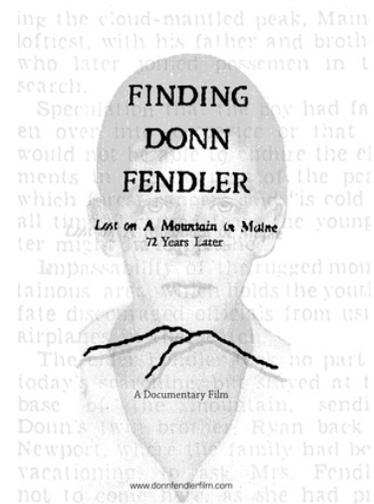
Learn more about Donn Fendler's story from the three different sources below. Then compare and contrast the three versions.



*original chapter book*



*graphic novel*



*documentary*

1. How was each version alike? Different?
2. Which version of the story was your favorite? Why?
3. List 3 new/different things you learned in each version.
4. In *Lost on a Mountain in Maine*, twelve-year-old Donn tells his story to Joseph Egan. In *Lost Trail* and *Finding Donn Fendler*, Donn is a man in his 80's remembering his ordeal from over 70 years ago. How did the younger Donn Fendler sound different than the older Donn Fendler (i.e. words he used, details he focused on, lessons he learned)?
5. Even after reading/viewing all these versions of the Donn Fendler story, what's one thing you still don't know about him or his story? Is there a way to find out that missing information?



## PAMOLA PLUS

In *Lost Trail*, it's obvious illustrator Ben Bishop enjoyed drawing the mythic Penobscot creature Pamola. Ben used larger-sized panels to show the drama of Pamola who watched over the top of Mt. Katahdin and was said to be part man, part moose, and part eagle. Study Ben's Pamola in *Lost Trail*.

On another paper draw your own combination creature:

PART HUMAN

PART ANIMAL # 1 \_\_\_\_\_

PART ANIMAL # 2 \_\_\_\_\_

What will you name your creature? \_\_\_\_\_

Where will your creature live and why?

Write a paragraph describing your creature in action.

# Lost Trail

## Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think was the greatest danger Donn Fendler faced while he was lost? Why?
2. Which *Lost Trail* character (besides Donn Fendler) is your favorite? Why?
3. Which *Lost Trail* character was your least favorite? Why?
4. What do you think was the biggest mistake Donn Fendler made while he was lost? Why?
5. What was his best decision? Why?
6. Donn Fendler has often said that people who read his story will learn what *not* to do if they're ever lost (meaning that he thinks he made many mistakes while he was lost). But what did you learn from Donn Fendler's story that would *help you* if you ever faced a crisis?
7. Donn Fendler only ate a half-cup of wild strawberries while he was lost for nine days. Forests have other edible plants. What else do you think he could have safely eaten?
8. How do you think search and rescue efforts have changed since 1939? That is, what would the rescue look like if a child were lost on a mountain today?
9. Why do you think Donn Fendler's story continues to still fascinate people more than 70 years after it happened?
10. Because of his adventure, Donn Fendler met famous people such as governors and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Who's the most famous person you've ever met and what's the reason you met them?

# Lost Trail

## Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Perform several pages of *Lost Trail* as Readers' Theatre. Divide up parts, including a narrator part. Practice and perform it for another class as a way to introduce them to the book.
- What's a famous historical story from your area/state (such as, a historic storm, local invention, record-setting athlete, etc.)? Research details of your chosen story, and then write it up as an old newspaper article (for an example, note the newspaper articles about the 1939 search effort for Donn Fendler included in *Lost Trail*).
- Add an additional page or two to *Lost Trail* including a narrative, conversations, and illustrations as you imagine it might have happened. Perhaps you could add a page for when Donn, his brothers, and his friends Henry and Freddie were reunited. Or expand to a full page what happened and was said when Donn received the Legion of Merit Medal from President Franklin Delano Roosevelt at the White House. Or add another scene you can imagine.
- Choose a favorite chapter book of yours and rewrite a page or two from it in graphic novel format.