Grey Owl

*These questions can help to guide a student’s viewing of the Grey Owl biography.*

1. Where was Archie Belaney born?

2. Describe three significant aspects of his early childhood.

3. When and how did Archie first become fascinated with the Indigenous peoples of North America?

4. How did Archie get to Canada? How did he make a living once here?

5. What actions and behaviours made Archie less than admirable? Why weren’t these actions and behaviours upsetting to the Aboriginal people with whom he was friends?

6. How many wives and/or partners did Archie eventually have? What became of them?

7. Who was Anahereo? How did she change his life? How did Archie change hers?

8. When did Archie begin using the pseudonym Grey Owl? What happened to make him famous? Why was he popular? What was the high point of his popularity?

9. How did Grey Owl contribute to the stereotype of Aboriginal persons?

10. How was the media different then than now? Do you think someone would be able to get away with something like this today? How would the media react to it now? Would social media play a role?

11. What two big news stories broke when Grey Owl died?

12. Choose five adjectives to describe Grey Owl/Archie Belaney. Do you feel like you can use the same adjectives to describe each? Or do they warrant separate lists? If you create two lists, explain your decision.