

Stormy Hike Answer Key

1. Possible theme: **Preparedness and teamwork help people overcome challenges.**
2. Evidence example: Mara and Tyler used their rain jackets, flashlights, and map to stay safe and reach the shelter.

Teacher's Guide:

- **Differentiation Tips**

- Review common themes such as teamwork, courage, friendship, responsibility, and perseverance.
- Provide struggling students with a sentence frame like The theme is... because....
- Encourage advanced students to identify two possible themes and choose the strongest one.

- **Engagement Ideas**

- Ask students to highlight lines in the passage that hint at teamwork or preparation.
- Let students work in pairs to brainstorm possible themes before writing individually.
- Compare student themes on a class chart and discuss differences in interpretation.

- **Extension Activities**

- Have students rewrite the passage by changing the weather and seeing how the theme shifts.
- Ask students to write a new short scene that demonstrates the same theme.
- Turn the activity into a mini debate where students defend their theme choice using evidence.