

## Additional Vocabulary and Comprehension Questions

Overview: When Jonathan's mother realizes she has no pot big enough to make stew for twenty-three people, she sends Jonathan over Hemlock Mountain to fetch an iron pot from his aunt. Jonathan fears there might be bears on the mountain, so he plans to get home before dark. Unfortunately, Jonathan falls asleep at his aunt's house, and then forgets the pot, so dark falls as he crosses the mountain. There *are* bears on Hemlock Mountain, so Jonathan digs a hole in the snow and puts the big pot over himself. His father comes to the rescue and Jonathan brings home the pot.

### Chapters 1-5

Q: What does Jonathan's mother wish sometimes?

A: that she had a few less guests or that they were not quite so hungry

Q: Why does Jonathan like his Uncle James?

A: he is close to Jonathan in age and sees and hears his world with great awareness

Q: Why must Jonathan go over the mountain? [chapter 3]

A: to fetch a big pot so Mother can make stew for 23 people

Q: What is Jonathan's fear? Is this reasonable? [chapter 3]

A: there might be bears on Hemlock Mountain; no, for no one has seen bears

Q: Why does Jonathan feed the small birds and animals? [chapter 4]

A: it gives him joy and they help him feel less lonely

Q: Why does Jonathan fear the Spring weather? [chapter 5]

A: he doesn't want the bears to wake up

## Chapters 6-10

Q: Why does Jonathan stay so long at his aunt's house? [chapter 6]

A: he eats many cookies and takes a long nap

Q: How does Jonathan hide from the bears?

A: he digs a hole in the snow and pulls the pot over himself

Q: Who comes to get Jonathan? [chapter 9]

A: his father and some other uncles

Q: How does Jonathan prove the bears exist? [chapter 10]

A: he shows his relatives the bear's footprints in the snow