

# Grizzly Girl: A Superhero

## Who Is Grizzly Girl?

Once, Belle Bearclaw was a typical young woman from Washington, USA. In her early twenties, this energetic youth had a passion for travelling the world and taking impressive snapshots of amazing places and creatures. However, one day whilst trying to snap a close-up photograph of a grizzly bear in a forest at the heart of Alaska, she came across a hunter who was determined to perform dangerous experiments on the local bear population. While attempting to stop him, a dart containing special formula, intended for the bear, grazed her cheek. She raced away from the scene as fast and as far as she could, but stopped when the shallow scratch on the side of her face began to tingle. Violently, her limbs started to shake and when she looked down at her hands, she saw soft, brown fur and long, pointed claws.

## Big Superhero Facts

- Grizzly Girl can communicate with most types of bear, and hibernates during the winter.
- Her superhero name creates a problem - people think that she has a sullen or grumpy attitude. Quite the opposite is true: she is actually extremely good-natured and pleasant.
- Like most grizzly bears, Grizzly Girl has a desperate thirst for honey. This sweet nectar can be found in beehives around the forest, and Grizzly Girl's roar is so powerful that it can quite literally shake the honey from the hive.

## Superpowers

Grizzly Girl's almighty roar, which can be heard from space, is so loud that it is regularly mistaken for rolling thunder. This incredible being has the strength of a typhoon and the impressive ability to roll up into a speeding ball of fur and claws, which flies through the



air like a bullet. Grizzly Girl uses these unique powers to wage war against evil and to protect the well-meaning people of North America. Her roar sends shockwaves through her enemies and halts them in their tracks, giving her a crucial extra few seconds to gain the upper hand.

### Friends

This superhero has made several animal friends in the forest, and can call on wolves, beavers, birds and other bears in times of need. Belle also has a younger sister, Bernadette, who is her only link to the human world. Unfortunately, Bernadette has hopes to become just like her super sister, and so far, nothing Belle can say will convince her to give up.

### Enemies

While Grizzly Girl has no arch-enemy, she has sometimes been caught in hunter's traps. Although she is more than capable of disabling and destroying them, the human hunters in her homeland do cause a nuisance and if she can give them a little fright to discourage them from returning, so much the better!



# Questions

1. How did Belle start to change when she became Grizzly Girl?

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2. Name three of Grizzly Girl's superpowers.

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3. What two things does she use her roar for?

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4. What does 'sullen' mean?

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5. Why is her superhero name a problem for her?

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6. Why do you think that the author has used bullet points on page 1

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7. Which continent does Grizzly Girl help to protect?

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8. Find a word which means the opposite of 'encourage'.

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9. If Grizzly Girl was your big sister, would you want to be like her too? Why?

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