

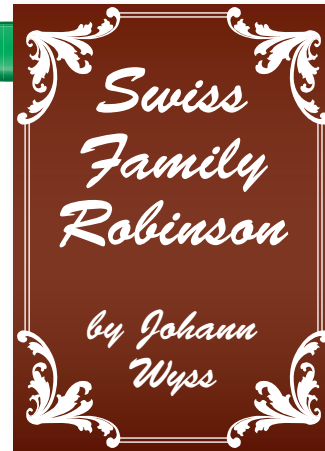
Swiss Family Robinson

1 Getting Started

Swiss Family Robinson is a novel about a Swiss family who was shipwrecked in the East Indies. The story was written by Johann David Wyss, and was first published in 1812.

Essential Question How does the knowledge of mathematics provide you and your family with survival tools?

Read *Swiss Family Robinson*. As you read the exciting adventures, think about the mathematics the family knew and used to survive.



Sample: The tree house built by the family was accessed by a long rope ladder. The ladder was about 30 feet long with a rung every 10 inches. To make the ladder, the family had to plan how many rungs were needed. They decided the number was $1 + 12(30) \div 10$. Why?



2 Things to Include

- Suppose you lived in the 18th century. Plan a trip from Switzerland to Australia. Describe your route. Estimate the length of the route and the number of miles you will travel each day. About how many days will the entire trip take?
- Suppose that your family is shipwrecked on an island that has no other people. What do you need to do to survive? What types of tools do you hope to salvage from the ship? Describe how mathematics could help you survive.
- Suppose that you are the oldest of four children in a shipwrecked family. Your parents have made you responsible for the education of your younger siblings. What type of mathematics would you teach them? Explain your reasoning.



3 Things to Remember

- You can download each part of the book at BigIdeasMath.com.
- Add your own illustrations to your project.
- Organize your math stories in a folder, and think of a title for your report.

