

Quiz: RL.8.7

Read the passage and watch the video. Then answer the questions.

Excerpt from *Tarzan of the Apes*
Edgar Rice Burroughs

On the way to a post in Africa, John and Alice Clayton are left stranded in the jungle. They build a hut and try to survive until they can be rescued. Alice gives birth to a baby boy, but she dies when he is a year old. Soon after, John is killed by an ape named Kerchak. A female ape, Kala, takes the baby human as her own and names him Tarzan.

- 1 Tenderly Kala nursed her little waif, wondering silently why it did not gain strength and agility as did the little apes of other mothers. It was nearly a year from the time the little fellow came into her possession before he would walk alone, and as for climbing—my, but how stupid he was!
- 2 Kala sometimes talked with the older females about her young hopeful, but none of them could understand how a child could be so slow and backward in learning to care for itself. Why, it could not even find food alone, and more than twelve moons had passed since Kala had come upon it.
- 3 Had they known that the child had seen thirteen moons before it had come into Kala's possession they would have considered its case as absolutely hopeless, for the little apes of their own tribe were as far advanced in two or three moons as was this little stranger after twenty-five.
- 4 Tublat, Kala's husband, was sorely vexed, and but for the female's careful watching would have put the child out of the way.
- 5 "He will never be a great ape," he argued. "Always will you have to carry him and protect him. What good will he be to the tribe? None; only a burden.
- 6 "Let us leave him quietly sleeping among the tall grasses, that you may bear other and stronger apes to guard us in our old age."
- 7 "Never, Broken Nose," replied Kala. "If I must carry him forever, so be it."
- 8 And then Tublat went to Kerchak to urge him to use his authority with Kala, and force her to give up little Tarzan, which was the name they had given to the tiny Lord Greystoke, and which meant "White-Skin."
- 9 But when Kerchak spoke to her about it Kala threatened to run away from the tribe if they did not leave her in peace with the child; and as this is one of the inalienable rights of the jungle folk, if they be dissatisfied among their own people, they bothered her no more, for Kala was a fine clean-limbed young female, and they did not wish to lose her.
- 10 As Tarzan grew he made more rapid strides, so that by the time he was ten years old he was an excellent climber, and on the ground could do many wonderful things which were beyond the powers of his little brothers and sisters.

