

# Nowhere Island

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# BOOK TALK CARDS



Spark discussion and foster a reading community with our top picks



## ABOUT THE BOOK

In this survival adventure, four children unite and live harmoniously on an island between the intersection of busy motorways, until they witness something that puts them in deadly danger.



## OUR THOUGHTS

"This is a perfect companion for pre or early teens, and a great transition text for children moving onto secondary school and beginning to consider the world around them more.

# KS3

## THEMES:

- Family
- Friendship
- Loyalty
- Home
- Trust

## TIME TO TALK

- 1 When Gil looks through his pebble everything looks different. What do you think the author is encouraging us to consider about perspective? Which characters manage to look at things from the point of view of others, which are less able to do this?
- 2 Riley and Grayson have grown up in the same chaotic and potentially frightening household, how have their responses to this environment affected them in different ways? What could be the consequences of this for them as they move through life?
- 3 Can you empathise with Pez's silence? Is she able to communicate effectively without talking?
- 4 Consider the adult characters that we come across in the story – are they all unreliable/ untrustworthy? Are there any that can also be seen as victims of their circumstance?
- 5 How likely do you think the children's successful defeat of the man from the layby is? Could you suggest an alternative solution to this part of the story?
- 6 'It didn't matter where they went, so long as they kept going in the right direction... A different world, perhaps a better one.' What do you think of this ending – how will the children know the right direction? Are there different versions of the world that we live in?
- 7 Do you think the money the children have at the end of the story will help them to move on? How might it be a burden?
- 8 How does the author use the end of each chapter to ensure you want to read on?

## TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 5 TITLES TO CONTINUE THE THEME:



Bridge To Terabithia by Katherine Paterson



When I See Blue by Lily Bailey



Read Between The Lies by Malcolm Duffy



Let's Chase Stars Together by Matt Goodfellow



When Shadows Fall by Sita Brahmachari