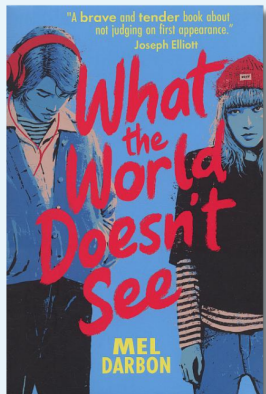


What the World Doesn't See

Mel Darbon

BOOK TALK CARDS



KS3

THEMES:

- Grief
- Tolerance
- Family
- Difference
- Responsibility

ABOUT THE BOOK

When Maudie's and Jake's family falls apart and Jake is put into care, the two siblings run away to Cornwall and find freedom and love. But can they find Mum and a way to heal?



OUR THOUGHTS

"A powerful, gripping and pacy dual narrative which successfully deals with grief, autism and mental health."

TIME TO TALK

- 1 Consider the opening – how does the author instantly encourage empathy with Maudie?
- 2 How are Maudie and Jake's opening chapters contrasted? Why do you think Jake can only see things from his perspective? Can he help this, how does he try?
- 3 'Fault' is a theme which can be seen discussed throughout the story. Can you describe any situations where it is easy to attribute fault? Are there examples where it is harder?
- 4 Do you think it would be easier to be like Jake and less aware of what is happening, or like Maudie who is aware and trying to take responsibility? Have you ever been in a situation where you have needed to support the adults who take care of you? How did this make you feel?
- 5 The characters manage their grief in different ways. Do you have any experiences of grief that you would like to share? What can help people to process their feelings when someone they care about dies?
- 6 Do you think the Mum is right to go away whilst she recovers? Is this better than staying and not being able to help the children?
- 7 Consider Maudie's plan to bring the family back together: is it desperate, is it realistic? Have you ever felt in her position?
- 8 Think about the concepts of being lost and finding yourself – can you describe a time when you have felt lost, or conversely felt fulfilled or satisfied? How did these experiences affect what happened next?

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

