

Alice Éclair, Spy Extraordinaire!

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BOOK TALK CARDS



Spark discussion and foster a reading community with our top picks



ABOUT THE BOOK

In the style of an old-fashioned crime caper, join the plucky Alice Éclair - baker by day, spy by night - in solving the mystery behind a missing aeroplane engineer at the Parisian World Fair.



ENJOYED THE STORY?

Read Alice Eclair's first caper in **A Recipe For Trouble**, and prepare for the third instalment in the series, **A Sprinkling Of Danger!**



THEMES:

Determination • Trust • Talents
Bravery • Invention • Loyalty

TIME TO TALK

- 1 There is a struggle between Claude and Alice at the start of the story - they both misunderstand each other, and Alice feels that Claude treats her differently because of her age and maybe gender. How do you perceive their dispute? Have you ever had a misunderstanding with a friend, classmate, or adult; did you find a way to understand each other's perspectives?
- 2 *'Don't ever let me hear you be so careless about a human life again'.* Why does Claude say this to Alice in the first chapter and what does he mean? How is this theme developed in the book?
There are several interesting
- 3 female characters taking lead roles in this story. In what ways do they fit or differ from what we might traditionally expect? What message do their characters give readers?
Being inventive is an important part
- 4 of the story. Which invention do you like best, and why? If you could invent anything, what would it be for and why? What qualities do you think you need to be a good inventor like Alice or Sophie?
- 5 Taking risks is another central theme explored in the story. How do you feel when you take a risk? When is it worth it; when might it be better to wait and see? Who can you talk to about risks?
- 6 What can you find out about The World Fair that was really held in Paris in 1937? Try to describe why exhibitors might have been apprehensive about sharing too many of their ideas.
- 7 Describe the different characters we meet within the fashion show world. How do they differ from the characters we meet in the Aviation pavilion? Which characters can you trust; how is this demonstrated?
- 8 A lot of the acts in the story rely on determined and thoughtful decision making. Can you give any examples? Can you think of any real life examples where you have had to stick to a decision - do you find this easy or hard?

TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 6 TEXTS TO CONTINUE THE THEME:



The Accidental Secret Agent by Tom McLaughlin



The Adventurers and the Cursed Castle by Jenna Hatt



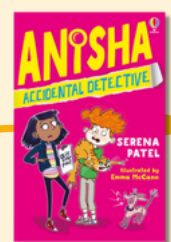
Kate On The Case by Hannah Peck



The Dog Squad by Clara Vulliamy



Harriet The Spy by Louise Fitzhugh



Anisha, Accidental Detective by Serena Patel