

City of Dragons
Discussion Guide
Grades 3 - 7

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

Discuss the history of dragons and what they symbolize in different cultures.
What roles do dragons play in stories you've heard?

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- How does her relationship with her dad change over the course of the story? What does this reveal about Grace as a character?
- What clues in the story help you figure out what Grace got and why it mattered?
- How does Grace react to the egg hatching?
- Why do you think there was a man following Grace and her friends? What happened?
- What does this reveal about how Grace feels about her dad and the values she learned from him?
- How did the sleepover strengthen their friendship or reveal something new about Grace?
- What happened to Nate?
- How did Grace and her friends respond to what happened, and what does this show about their teamwork?
- Describe what happened on the island.
- How did Nate end up in the wrong hands?
- What did they notice about the men that took Nate? What does this imply?
- Infer why Hand had Grace's dad.
- Defend Hank's reason for using Grace's dad.
- Why do you think Hank injected himself?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- How did Grace and her friends respond to what happened, and what does this show about their teamwork?
- Utilize RIF's Influences on a Character to determine the influences on Grace.
- **Writing Activity:** Imagine you are Grace. Reflect on what has happened, how you feel about it, and what you've learned so far.
- **Character Analysis:** How did Grace's relationships with her dad and her friends influence her decisions?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.