

*Survive on a Desert Island*  
**Discussion Guide**  
Grades 3-7

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

- What does it mean to survive?
- What are some things you think you would need to survive?
- Frontload vocabulary

**During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections. Prompt students to provide support for their answers from the text.**

- How does the story about Stephen and his sisters at the beginning help you to understand what it means to survive on a desert island?
- What kind of mindset do you need to have if you end up stranded on a desert island? Why?
- What is the most important thing you need to do if you end up stranded on a desert island?
- How can you get water if you are stranded on a desert island?
- What kind of shelter could you build if you were on a desert island? What might make one kind of shelter better than another?
- Why is fire important?
- What kind of food could you eat if you were on a desert island?

**After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

Make a to-do list as if you were stranded on a desert island. What would you do first? What would you do next? How do you decide the order in which you would do different things?

Even if you aren't ever stranded on a desert island, why might it be important to read this book and learn survival tips?

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.