

Vikings, Sailors & Sea Monsters

Discussion questions to encourage critical thinking.

These questions and any others you can think of can be discussed after reading the story together. Don't ask them all at once.

The experience of reading is supposed to be enjoyable and not an inquisition.

Many questions can be asked as you are reading the story or before you turn to a new page ask, what do you think will happen next?

The answers I have provided are a guide only and I have not addressed all issues otherwise we could have a new novel on our hands.

Your child may think up some amazing responses, reasons and opinions.

Encourage unusual, creative or original ideas.



Drog didn't believe in having meetings or having a vote on issues.

You just needed a big axe to persuade folk.

What do you think of his ideas?

Well, it would certainly save a lot of time – no discussions, arguments etc

However, not very democratic or fair. Dictatorship. Good discussion question, as long as no one has an axe!

Do you think Lief should have been able to put his bad life behind and start again? Why?

Most will probably say that he should be able to as everyone deserves a fresh start.

What about his limbless victims though don't they deserve some consideration?

Bork's ship was always being tidied up by his mum. Do you think she should have done this? Why?

Nice idea and a very mum thing to do..but, his boat to decide how it looks.

Put him in a very embarrassing position with other Vikings. A mummy's boy – shame.

Further discussion could centre around a child's bedroom – private space or not. Untidy or not.

Do you think Herryk should have taken his hound into the middle of fierce battles? Why?

Some might think it rather cruel to take a loyal, man's best friend, animal into a very dangerous situation.

However, his war hound was supposed to be trained for battle.

Which page did you like the most? Why?

Which message did you like the most? Why?

Creative activities & Imagination Boosters

"You had better save us, or you are doomed."

Is what the bee said correct? Might be a good idea to do some research on the importance of bees. Check it out on *Google*.

Theodor's page is sort of a puzzle. Look up 'The Cat in the Hat' book and see if you can put it all together.

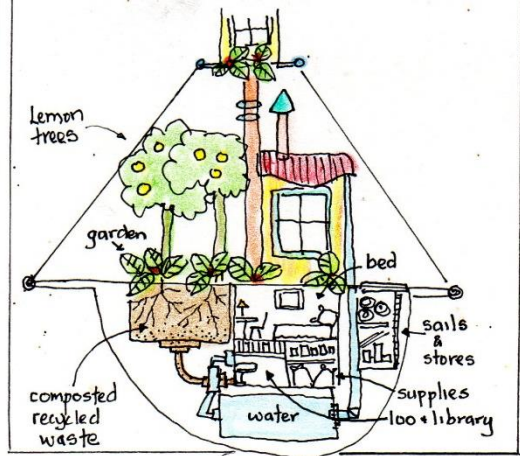
'The Voyage of the Beagle II' is also a bit of a puzzle. I wonder what all that is about?

Draw a different interior for a Mr Heff boat.

Mr Heff makes short stories like the ones in this book to go with his ceramic pieces. Sometimes he just puts the story on the wall. Create your own ship and add a short message.

Scroll down.

Theodore thought
the world was in
a mess.
So he baked a cake
and sailed away
into the sunset.



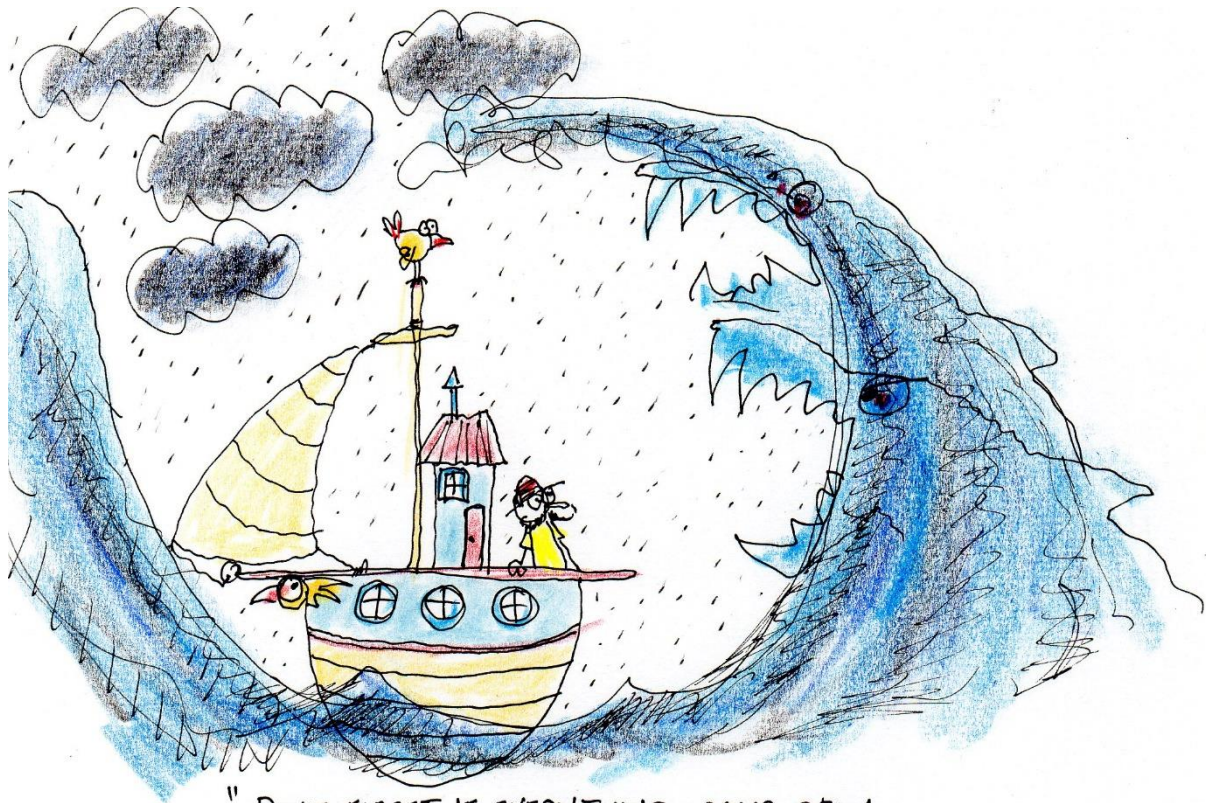
Sometimes Mr Heff turns them into posters, or maybe it is the start of another book.

You could do your own drawings to go with good messages for kids.

You know, like the importance of eating vegetables or doughnuts.

Don't worry if your drawings are not perfect – mine have loose, squiggly lines everywhere.

Scroll down.



" DONT FORGET IF EVERYTHING LOOKS GRIM
& YOU SINK DOWN INTO DEEP TROUGHS
AS SURE AS FISH GO WITH CHIPS
YOU WILL SOON BE ON THE CREST
OF A WAVE IN BRIGHT SUNLIGHT."

Horatio Pringledink

I use Staedtler pigment liner pens – from Power Plus and colouring pencils.