

Book talk: ideas about text, opinions, retelling, missing chapter, point of view, character maps, **Vocabulary Extension:** VCOP/Phonics/wordgames/language

blackout
picture palce
RAF
WRVS
evacuated
evacuee
concussion
Blitz
Luftwaffe
National Service
bunting
credentials
groceries
Jerry - German
groyne
shingle
disconcerting
telegraph
invasion
Kindertransport
low profile
foreboding
Shalom - Hebrew for Peace
Jude - German for Jew
chamber pot
refugee

Olive - main character - 10/11 year old girl
Cliff - Olive's eight-year-old brother
Sukie - eldest child in family - runs off to engage with fight to rescue Jewish refugees
Queenie - sister of neighbour in London - runs post office in Devon. Involved in mission to rescue refugees
Ephraim - lighthouse keeper - involved in mission to rescue refugees
Esther - refugee, similar age to Olive
Mr Spratt - coastguard - very officious character

Environment: role-play area, display, vocabulary, learning walls
Key words:
Luftwaffe, RAF, Pathe News, WRVS, Kindertransport, Holocaust, Jerry, billeting officer, evacuation, national security, rations, blackout, Gestapo

Drama and role play: hotseating, freeze-frame, conscience alley

- ⇒ Interview a refugee - experiences on Kindertransport
- ⇒ Conscience alley - bombing of Dresden - P4C links
- ⇒ Hot seating - on Sukie's interference in Mum's secret
- ⇒ Act out own playscripts of refugees landing

Multi-media links: DVD /book comparison / You tube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyY5AHqjTm4> - colour footage of Battle of Britain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtZema1yJOk> - first day of the Blitz

PowerPoint - How did World War Two Begin?

SPAG Opportunities in text—Please note these will be selected relevant to genre/teaching sequence.

- ⇒ Use colons to introduce a list (non-chronological comparative report)
- ⇒ Use commas to clarify meaning (missing chapter)
- ⇒ Understand and use conjunctions of comparison and contrast (non-chronological comparative report)
- ⇒ Use speech punctuation - new speaker, new line)
- ⇒ Use hyphen to join prefix to root word (journalistic script)

'At a glance' - The Text Summary

At the start of the story, we find ourselves in 1940s London. The war has been raging for two years and it's taking its toll on the family of Olive, our main character. Mum is clearly depressed after hearing that Dad's plane has been shot down and he's presumed dead. Olive's sister, Sukie, suggests a family trip to the cinema. Whilst there, Sukie goes missing then an air raid begins. Olive is injured and ends up in hospital but not before she's spotted Sukie for one last time, talking to a mysterious stranger. Following Olive's near miss, Mum decides that her children must be evacuated. Neighbour, Gloria, has a sister, Queenie, who runs a post office in Devon so that's where Olive and Cliff are sent. Once there however, the children realise that Queenie doesn't want them and is trying to hide something. The mystery deepens when Olive finds a coded message in her coat pocket - the coat which had been found after Sukie disappeared. Esther, a Jewish refugee moves into the post office with the children but Olive and Esther dislike each other immediately. Queenie has had enough and sends Olive and Cliff to stay with Ephraim at the lighthouse. It's here that Olive finds clothes and food stockpiled and begins to hear Ephraim sending radio messages at night. Who could the food and clothing be for and who is Ephraim contacting so secretly? Going back to the post office to speak to Queenie, Olive finds her checking tide times and puts two and two together - Queenie and Ephraim are involved in receiving groups of Jewish refugees from all over Europe. Olive and Cliff witness the refugees' boat landing and see Esther being reunited with her father. Ephraim helps Olive to crack the code and explains that Sukie is not his London contact: it's Mrs Arby. Cliff is taken ill with appendicitis and Mum is sent for. It then transpires that the mysterious Mrs Arby, is none other than Olive's mother - Mrs Rachel Bradshaw. Mrs RBl Finally, Sukie returns and explains that she'd found out Mum's secret and wanted to help. The officious Mr Spratt, the local coastguard, threatens to reveal all by demanding to see records of all arrivals by sea but the villagers pull together and defeat him. Sukie reveals how Dad died and the family is reunited, having made a network of new friends.

Writing Genres:

*Red indicates links with assessment grid * P4C opportunities

Chapters 1 & 2 - Olive, Cliff and Sukie go to the pictures. The three are split up. After an air raid, Olive passes out and wakes up in hospital. Sukie is missing after meeting a mystery man. **Non-chronological comparative report - British and German aircraft In war ever justified? In what sort of circumstances?**
Chapters 3 & 4 - Olive out of hospital. Finds foreign map in Sukie's bedroom. Olive and Cliff are evacuated. **Poetry based on a model - war poetry to describe experience of the Blitz**

Chapters 5 & 6 - Children arrive in Devon. Go to Queenie who is unwelcoming. Olive finds coded message in her coat pocket. **Missing Chapter - What happens in Devon before the arrival of the evacuees? who is u**
Chapters 7, 8 & 9 - Children given jobs. Try to decode message. Meet Esther. German planes fly over. Esther moves in with them - tension between Esther and Olive over code. **Recount based on Esther's experience of the Kindertransport.**
Chapters 10,11 & 12 - Ephraim saves Cliff. Dead carrier pigeon - memories of Dad. Olive starts to wonder about Sukie's role. Children start school. Mr Spratt wants to change lighthouse because of bombers. **Diary entry - Ephraim's diary entry for arrival of the children.**

Chapters 13,14 & 15 - Olive hears Ephraim on radio at night. Finds food and clothes stockpiled. Olive begins to crack the code. Ephraim says Sukie is writing to him, not Queenie. Olive knows about the refugees - finds waterlogged suitcase from Europe. **Non-narrative persuasion - one point of view. Letter to residents explaining need to take in refugees. If helping a group of refugees puts your own family in danger, what should you do?**
Chapters 16,17 & 18 - Cliff opens suitcase. German plane crashes. Olive stands up for pilot - wants him treated with respect - she thinks of Dad. Ephraim helps Olive with code. Mention of Mrs Arby - London contact. Boat landing today. Olive and Cliff see refugees. Esther reunited with her father. **Playscript to convert p186 - 188 from narrative - refugees landing.**

Chapters 19,20 & 21 - Refugees at Queenie's - new clothes and identity papers. Was Miss Carter disguised as the mystery man back in London? Cliff unwell - appendicitis. Olive telegraphs Mum. Mum arrives in Devon where it transpires that she's Mrs Arby, the London contact. **Documentary from gates of concentration camp - journalistic script.**
Chapters 22 - end - Children take yellow stars off refugees' coats. Mood in village changes. Tea party to bring everyone together. Mr Spratt and police turn up to arrest Ephraim. All village support him. Sukie returns - explains that she was trying to help Mum. Tells of how Dad died. Family go home. **Book review - link to Whole Class Reading The law says that Ephraim should have declared that a boat arrived from France, the villagers think this is petty. Is the law always right? Are there circumstances when it's acceptable not to obey rules?**

Story: Letters from the Lighthouse