



Wishapick

TICKETY BOO AND THE BLACK TRUNK

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. What character(s) did you admire or dislike? What character(s) in real life would you like to hang out with?
2. What drew you into the story? What song(s) inspired you to listen to it over and over?
3. Did the book frighten you or make you laugh? Or both? What song frightened you or made you happy?
4. What character(s) changed the most during the course of the book?
5. Do you think O'Sirus was justified in holding onto his anger and bringing the darkness to Wishapick? What was he so angry about?
6. Jack had the key to his father's trunk. What song mentions what that key represented in Wishapick? What secrets do you think the black trunk holds for Jack? For Lilly?
7. How did remembering the 'breath of all good things' work out for Jack? Does the 'breath of all good things' relate to the song Tickety Boo? How or why not? What do you think the 'breath of all things' is?

ABOUT THE BOOK

Darkness. Utter blackness. Was this why his mother had refused to let Jack unlock his father's old trunk? It had been two years since his dad had died, and all Jack could think about was examining whatever treasures were stored inside the beloved trunk. But when he finally lifted the lid, he didn't just fall in—he fell through it into a pit of rattlesnakes!

Trying to recall his mother's stories about "the Breath of All Good Things"—anything to shed light on his current situation—Jack wishes he'd paid better attention rather than mock the tales as childish myths...and that he'd waited to enter the trunk with his sister, Lilly, so they could at least face this together.

Like L. Frank Baum's Oz and C. S. Lewis's Narnia, M. M. Allen brings to life the fantastical world of Wishapick—a land of courageous animals ruled by a cruel rattlesnake king who has condemned the villagers to live without light. Chosen as the reluctant hero to save the villagers, Jack must face terrifying creatures and overwhelming odds if he wants to help his new friends—and return home himself.

Story by M. M. Allen | Music by Deborah Wynne



Wishapick

TICKETY BOO AND THE BLACK TRUNK

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

8. What gave Lilly the courage to save the Queen? The envelope she got from Dr. Tumalum, the instructions Jack wrote, her friends, Apple and Bree, or something else? The song The Crimson Tray – what is that about?
9. Winston wanted to be good friends with Miss Bailey, why? When Winston tricked her into dancing with him the lyrics of the song said he was hungry. What was he hungry for?
10. Can you explain what jiggery pokery means. If you had an opportunity to use a little Wishapick Jiggery Pokery what would you use it for and why?
11. Which song makes you want to sing or dance? What song(s) sends a gift of kindness to everyone?
12. Which character do you think would be a good dancer?
13. If you were in the possum family would you like running, all the time, to get where you needed to go? In the Possum Family song who was always missing? Why?
14. Did you admire the deeds performed by the Victory Eagles? Why or why not?
15. Were the Toves frightening to you? Would it be fun to have a Tove as a pet? In the song Cheese, Ottar pleads for Gouda cheese. Do you like Gouda cheese?
16. Who or what is Tickety Boo?