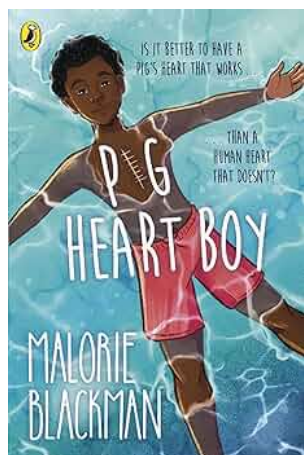




Pig Heart Boy

by Malorie Blackman

This half term all pupils will be lent a copy of Pig Heart Boy, which they will be expected to read at home alongside a book of their choice and some non-fiction writing. Please see below for a timetable for reading at home as well as ideas and discussion points for supporting your child with this book.

Deadlines for reading Pig Heart Boy

Please note, pupils may read the book more quickly if they wish. However, we will be holding quizzes and discussions at school based on the table below.

Tuesday 15th September	end of chapter 4 (p43)
Tuesday 22nd September	end of chapter 7 (p84)
Tuesday 29th September	end of chapter 12 (p119)
Tuesday 6th October	end of chapter 16 (p158)
Tuesday 13th October	end of chapter 21 (p211)
Tuesday 20th October	end of the book

Daily Reading

Pupils should spend 30 minutes per day reading at home. Please support your child by ensuring they have a quiet place to read and get into a habit of reading at the same time each day. This could be as soon as they get home from school, before they go to bed, or straight after their homework - try to find a routine which works best for your family.

If your child struggles to read independently for 30 minutes, then try the following:

- Split the time up into sections (e.g. fifteen minutes before school and fifteen minutes afterwards)
- Split the time into books (e.g. ten minutes on each text)
- Use a timer
- Take it in turns to read (e.g. your child reads a page, and then you read a page)

Supporting your child with reading at home

Children are more likely to read and enjoy reading if their parents/carers show them that reading is important.

You can help them do this in the following ways:

- Help your child get into a reading routine (see above)
- Ask your child to read part of the book aloud to you
- Ask your child the discussion questions for each chapter and show interest in their answers
- Encourage your child to complete the competition task at the end of each book
- Read part of the book aloud to your child

Your child will take part in a quiz about these books each week. You can help your child prepare for this by asking them the discussion questions below.

Section 1 (Chapters 1-4)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
Before reading the book	Read the blurb and look at the front cover together. What do you think this book will be about? Do you think you will like/dislike the book? What makes you think that? Have you heard of Malorie Blackman?
1	What do you think has happened? Why do you think all the writing is in italics?
2	What did you find out about Cam? Can you remember four facts about him?
3	Do you think it could be possible for a human to have a pig's heart? Do you think Cam and his parents should take the risk?
4	Do you think it is right for an animal to be killed to save a human? Why do you think mum left the room abruptly at the end of the chapter? What do you think Cameron is saying when he says, "It's quite simple really. I want to live."?

Section 2 (Chapters 5-7)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
5	Why do you think Cam describes this time as "the longest three days of my life"? Why do you think Cam wants to meet Trudy?
6	Explain the 'breakthrough' the doctors made. How do you think Cam feels about the new baby? Why?
7	Why do you think Dad is crying?

Section 3 (Chapters 8-12)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
8	What do you think Cam means when he says, "you could have fried two eggs on my face,"? (p88) What impression do you get of Travis?
9	Who is Cam speaking to? Why do you think he has done this?
10	Why do you think Cam's nan can't know the truth?
11	Can you summarise Cam's message to his sister in this chapter?
12	Why do you think Cam feels better after speaking to Marlon?

Section 4 (Chapters 13-16)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
13	How do you think Cam feels about the newspaper article? Do you think it is a good idea for Cam to talk to the press?
14	Should Cam forgive Marlon? Why?
15	Why do you think Cam decides not to see Marlon? Do you think it is right for the press to be waiting outside Cam's house? Why?
16	Why do you think Cameron is disappointed with Dr Bryce's speech?

Section 5 (Chapters 17-21)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
17	Do you think Cam's parents should have taken the offer? Why?
18	Do you think Cam is fair to Marlon? Why?
19	How do you think Cam feels when Julie reacts this way? Why did Julie's mum tell her not to go near Cam?
20	What impression do you get of Nan? Why did LEPAR write to Cam's parents? How do you think Cam felt when he read the letter?
21	Do you think Cam is too harsh to Julie? Why? Why do you think Cam couldn't open his mouth when the police arrived?

Section 6 (Chapters 22-26)

Chapter	Discussion Questions
22	Why is Cam starting to regret the operation? Do you think he was right to go through with it?
23	What news does Dr Bryce bring to the family? Make a prediction about how you think the story will end. Why do you think that?
24	Why do you think it was so important for Cam to touch the bottom of the pool?
25	What do you think Cam should do? Why?
26	How do you think Cam's nan's death will affect him? Why?
27	What do you think will happen to Cam in the future? Did you like/dislike the story? Why? Did the story remind you of anything else you have read or any films/TV you have watched? Can you retell the story in three sentences? Can you retell the story in one sentence?

Competition

All pupils are encouraged to enter our Pig Heart Boy Response competition. To enter the competition you need to respond to the book in some way - this could be with a piece of writing (poem, story, song lyrics etc), a piece of art (drawing, collage, painting, photograph), or any other recorded response. Lily will give more details about this in October.

Recommended reading after Pig Heart Boy

Hacker by Malorie Blackman

ANTIDOTE by Malorie Blackman