

# Online Book Club

## The Mystery at Cape Cod

# Bring It To Life!

1. Take an imaginary trip! Look at a map of Cape Cod. Describe the shape of Cape Cod. Why is Cape Cod a peninsula? Using the map and the Internet, find all the places that Christina and Grant visited. Have each member of the book club choose a place they want to see. Collect pictures and a description of each place. Now, it's time to travel! Have each member discuss their place and the things that you would see, hear, touch, smell, and taste there.
2. Have a Cape Cod feast! Discuss all the special foods that you might eat on Cape Cod. With help from parents, have each member bring a dish to share.
3. Make a Cape Cod National Seashore plant and wildlife display on shelf paper for a bulletin board or table display. Draw the outline of the seashore and ocean. Make cone-shaped dunes from construction paper to represent sand dunes. Color the drawing and glue sand to the seashore. Using your book and the Internet, make a list of plants, shellfish, birds and other animals that live on the seashore. Have every member choose one item and draw a picture of it on construction paper. Make sure that every thing on your list is selected. Color it appropriately, cut it out, and pin or paste it to the display. Now, write a paragraph about that item. Discuss its habitat, what it eats, how it grows, and why it makes its home on the seashore. Have each member read their paragraph to the group and tape it to the item it belongs with on the display.
4. Write down the names of all the characters in the mystery on slips of paper. Fold the slips and put them in a box. Ask each member to select a slip of paper from the box. Each member should then answer the following questions as if they were the character they selected. What part of the story is your favorite and why? What makes you so important to the story? Then, ask other book club members, "Who am I?"



# Online Quiz

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### Pop Quiz

1. What is a peninsula?
  - a. a Spanish penny
  - b. a piece of land almost surrounded by water
  - c. a shellfish
2. What did the kids see as they ate lunch at the restaurant in Boston?
  - a. Old Ironsides
  - b. a whale
  - c. the Mayflower
3. Where does Mrs. Winthrop take the children when they visit her at work?
  - a. to lunch
  - b. to see a dune shack
  - c. to the top of the lighthouse
4. What disappears at the top of the dunes that upsets Amelia?
  - a. her plant study project for school
  - b. a huge white seagull
  - c. her favorite pair of pink flip-flops
5. What does Christina trip over when the kids visit the Three Sisters?
  - a. a broken tree branch
  - b. a shovel with a red handle
  - c. Grant's toy truck
6. What drenches Grant with icy, cold seawater?
  - a. a waiter at the restaurant
  - b. a hose in Arabella's garden
  - c. a mammoth humpback whale



# Know your SAT Words!

## The Mystery at Cape Cod

### SAT Words



1. Crustacean: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Disobedient: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Illuminate: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Skiff: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Submerge: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.

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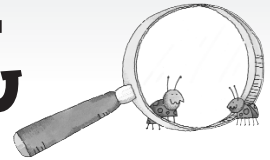
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# Online Activity

## The Mystery at Cape Cod

# Scavenger Hunt



Want to have some fun? Let's go on a scavenger hunt! See if you can find each item either in the book or when you visit the real place. Good luck! *(Teachers: You have permission to reproduce this page for your students.)*

1. \_\_\_\_ cranberry bogs
2. \_\_\_\_ a dune shack
3. \_\_\_\_ a bowline knot
4. \_\_\_\_ Plymouth Rock
5. \_\_\_\_ Old Ironsides
6. \_\_\_\_ dunes
7. \_\_\_\_ a skiff
8. \_\_\_\_ clam hoes
9. \_\_\_\_ Cape Cod Canal
10. \_\_\_\_ whale



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### TALK ABOUT IT!

1. What would it have been like to be a Pilgrim and land in a strange and wild country? What do you think the Pilgrims saw and how do you think they felt when they first landed on Cape Cod?
2. Mrs. Winthrop loved the idea of being a lighthouse keeper. What about you? Would you have liked to be a lighthouse keeper 200 years ago? Why or why not?
3. What did the kids do to catch the clams? Have you ever caught any type of shellfish? How did you catch them?
4. Would you like to eat a clambake? Why or why not? How did Mrs. Winthrop make the clambake? What were some of the foods she cooked in it?
5. What is erosion? What are some things that cause beaches to erode? What can we do about it?
6. Have you ever been on a whale watching expedition? What do you think it would be like?
7. Mimi lived in a dune shack at one time. Would you like to live in a dune shack? Why or why not? Why do you think writers and artists like living on the dunes?
8. How did you feel about Ben and what he did? How would you feel if you lost your job and could not support your family?
9. What is your favorite part of the mystery? What do you think is the scariest part?
10. Grant and Christina visited a lot of places on their trip to Cape Cod. Which of those places would you most like to visit? Why?

