

# Online Book Club

## Mystery at Niagara Falls

# Bring It To Life!

1. It is a Canadian tradition to eat maple syrup over snow. In the book, Grant and Christina try maple syrup over ice. As a book club, get some shaved ice and maple syrup and try it! See what other treats you can make up with shaved ice!
2. Have members of your book club bring in as many LEGO blocks as they can. Build a replica of a famous place or building or even create your own LEGO block city.
3. Research Niagara Falls and the different attractions surrounding it. Plan your dream trip to the falls!
4. Use the Internet to see what the current exchange rates are for American currency in Canada. If you only have a dollar, is it worth more in America or Canada?
5. Have each member of the book club draw what their dream Victorian home would look like. Would you have any secret rooms? If so, what would you put in there?



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# Fascinating Facts

- Ten percent of the water of Niagara Falls flows over the American Falls. The other ninety percent flows over the Horseshoe Falls.
- Today 50 percent of the Niagara River never makes it to the falls because it is diverted for power. This percentage increases to 75 percent at night and in the winter months.
- The Niagara River is not a river; it is a straight.
- One and a half million gallons of water flow through the Niagara River every second.
- The first and only time both the American Falls and the Horseshoe Falls on the Canadian side fell silent was on the night of March 29, 1848. An ice jam formed on Lake Erie near Buffalo, blocking the water that flows along the Niagara River.
- Seven people have gone over the falls in a barrel. Only four survived!
- With power requirements and anti-erosion measures, erosion has been reduced to less than one foot a year.
- The famous Red Hill saved 28 people from death over the falls.
- A free swimmer has never conquered the lower rapids.
- The word Niagara comes from the neutral Indian word *onguiaahra*, meaning "Thunder of Waters."



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### Pop Quiz

**Answer the following questions:**

1. Who saved Grant's life at the beginning of the book?

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2. What was the name of the boat that took the kids right next to Horseshoe Falls?

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3. What was the name of the 63-year-old widow who went over the falls in a barrel?

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4. Where did Christina find a clue in Brick City?

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5. How many locks are between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario?

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6. What is the legend of Goat's Island?

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7. Who were the gold thieves?

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8. Who was stuck inside a barrel at the winery?

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# Know your SAT Words!

Mystery Name: **Mystery at Niagara Falls**

## SAT Words



1. Coincidence: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Eavesdropping: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mesmerized: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Perplexed: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Recruit: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### Talk About It!

1. If you could have your own Victorian home, what would it look like? Would there be any secret rooms?
2. Have you ever been to Niagara Falls? If not, would you ever want to go? Which place from the book would you most like to visit?
3. If you lived a hundred years ago, would you have tried to be a daredevil and go down the falls in a barrel?
4. Who was your favorite character in the book? Why?
5. Grant, Christina, Allison and David were in a war re-enactment. Have you ever been in a re-enactment of anything in history? If so, what did you re-enact and what role did you play?
6. Would you be brave enough to go on the Hurricane Deck?
7. If you could build a replica of anything out of LEGO blocks, what would it be?
8. What was your favorite part of the book? Why?

