

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



SIX WEEKS

While reading *Six Weeks* by Matt Goodfellow, use these questions to help you discuss the book in greater depth.

GRIEF AND EMOTIONS

- Why do you think Alfie finds it difficult to talk about his feelings after Sally's death?
 - How does Matt Goodfellow show that grief can affect people in different ways?
 - Why does Alfie compare his thoughts and feelings to a washing machine?
 - Which moment in the story best shows how overwhelmed Alfie feels?
- Explain your answer.



RELATIONSHIPS

- How does Alfie's relationship with Chris change throughout the novel?
- Why do you think Rudi struggles to support Alfie after his mum dies?
- In what ways do Dad and Sophie help Alfie during the six weeks of summer?
- Which relationship in the novel do you think is the most important? Why?



CHARACTERS

- What do Alfie's memories reveal about Sally's personality?
 - How does Sophie help bring calm and hope to the story?
 - Why is Grandma's relationship with Sally so complicated?
 - Which character do you think changes the most during the novel?
- Explain your answer.



THEMES AND SYMBOLISM

- Why is the idea of light important throughout the novel?
- How does cycling become a symbol of freedom and escape for Alfie?
- What does the house renovation reveal about Chris and his grief?
- What message does the novel give about forgiveness and healing?



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CHARACTER STUDY ALFIE PIPER



SIX WEEKS



While reading *Six Weeks* by Matt Goodfellow, gather information about the main character, Alfie. You should add to each category as the story develops, and you learn more about him.



What do you know about Alfie?

How does Alfie change as the story progresses?

How does Alfie feel about his mum's partner?
How does this change?

What lessons does Alfie learn about grief and forgiveness?



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EXPLORING GRIEF



SIX WEEKS

After reading *Six Weeks* by Matt Goodfellow, compare how different characters respond to Sally's death by exploring how they express their grief, what support they receive and how their feelings and behaviour change throughout the story.

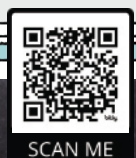
	ALFIE	HIM (CHRIS)	DAD (SAM)
How do they express their grief?			
What support do they receive?			
How does their behaviour change?			



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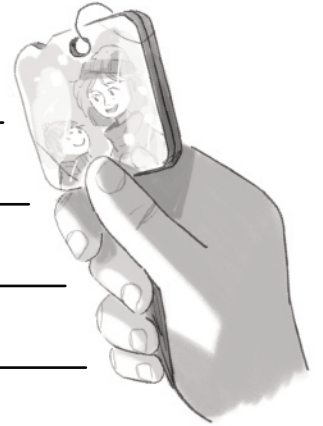
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LETTER WRITING



SIX WEEKS



A large writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines, designed for practicing letter writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the page width.



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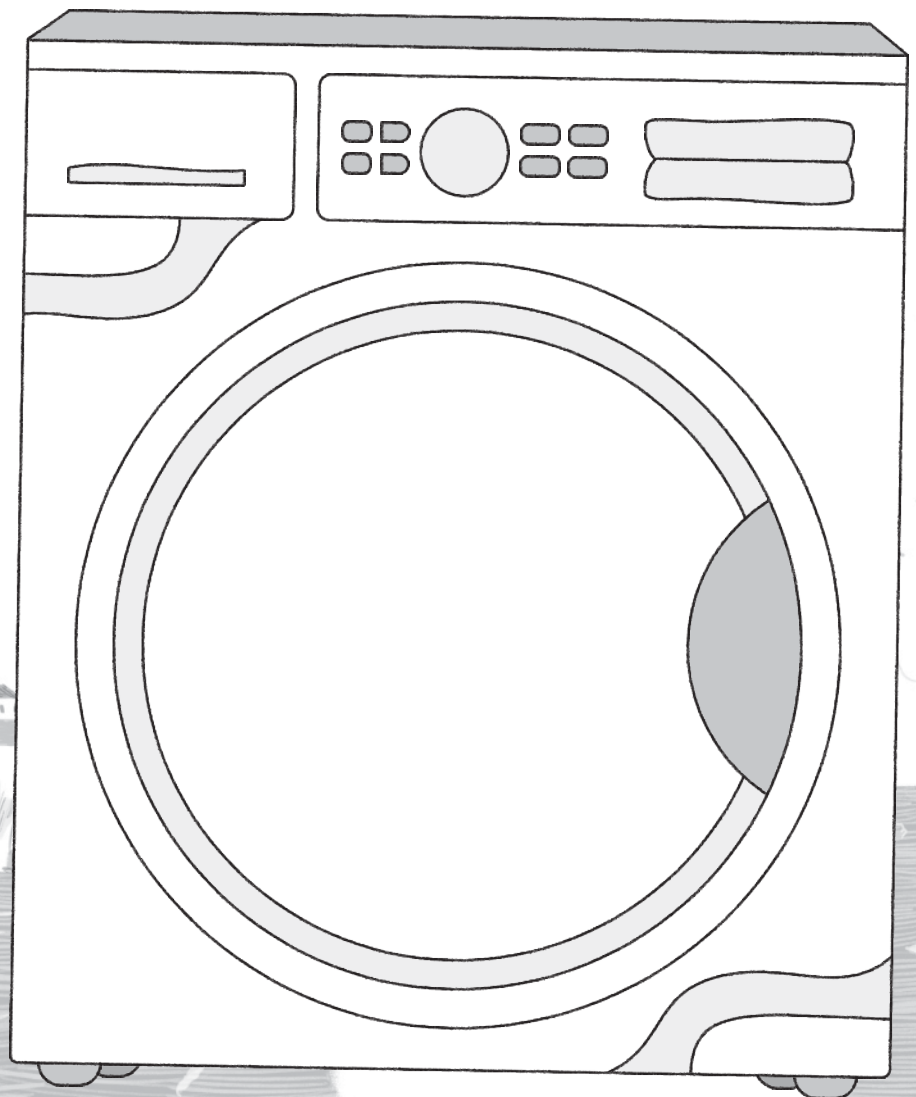


WASHING MACHINE EMOTIONS



SIX WEEKS

In *Six Weeks* by Matt Goodfellow, Alfie uses the metaphor of a washing machine to describe the different emotions spinning around him throughout the story. Think carefully about how Alfie feels at different points in the novel and write as many emotions as you can inside the washing machine.



Create your own metaphor for grief or overwhelming feelings.



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