



Junior Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Wildfire by Rodman Philbrick

1. When Sam's summer camp is evacuated due to wildfires, he misses the bus when he runs back to get his phone. Why did he do this? Do you think it was worth the risk?
2. Discuss what Sam does as he tries to escape the flames. Do you think he made the right choices? Why or why not?
3. How does being out in the wilderness affect Sam physically, emotionally, and mentally? Discuss using evidence from the novel.
4. Compare and contrast Sam and Delphy's lives and families. When they realize the danger they are in, what priorities do Sam and Delphy have in common regarding their families and are these priorities different in any way?
5. Sam and Delphy work together to find a way to safety. Do you think they could have survived without one another? How do they understand their need for each other?
6. How can strength be gained through choosing bravery over fear?
7. How do the decisions made by Sam and Delphy reveal their true characters?
8. Thousands of wildfires affect Canada every year. Has this novel made you more informed and/or changed your perceptions of wildfires?
9. As you can see from the novel, surviving in a wildfire can be challenging. What would you do if you suddenly found yourself trapped in a wildfire with no phone and no rescue team searching for you?

The above questions were created by Clarington Library, Museums & Archives staff to enhance your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

Rodman Philbrick grew up on the coast of New Hampshire and has been writing novels since the age of sixteen. For many years he published mystery and suspense novels for adults before turning to writing young adult novels. His 2010 novel, *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* won a Newbery Honor. Philbrick splits his time between Maine and Florida.

<https://rodmanphilbrick.com/about/>

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