

HAUNTED by Mahtab Narsimhan

Discussion Questions with Curriculum Links

1. The story is set at a summer camp called Camp Sunny Acres. What kinds of activities and experiences might take place at a summer camp setting? (Curriculum link: Creative Writing - Descriptive Writing)
2. Research the role of ghosts or spirits in different cultural traditions and folklore. How might these beliefs influence the events of the story? (Curriculum links: Social Studies - World Cultures, Mythology)
3. The book has a "vengeful ghost" haunting the lake. What could be potential reasons or backstories that would motivate a spirit to act in a malevolent way? (Curriculum link: Character Analysis/Development)
4. Describe the figurative language used in the book to create a spooky, ominous tone (e.g. "malevolent ghost," "restless ghost," etc.). How does this impact the mood? (Curriculum link: Literary Analysis - Figurative Language)
5. If you were to create a map or model of the haunted camp and lake setting, what specific details and imagery from the book would you include? (Curriculum links: Visual Arts, Geography)
6. The story involves a "freak storm." Research different types of severe weather events that could realistically occur in a summer camp environment. (Curriculum links: Science - Meteorology, Research Skills)
7. Write a journal entry from Jonah's perspective, describing his thoughts and emotions as his mother is captured by the ghost. (Curriculum links: Creative Writing, Characterization)
8. What skills or characteristics might Jonah and his friends need to successfully "appease the ghost and rescue" Jonah's mother? Discuss strategies they could employ. (Curriculum link: Problem Solving)
9. The book seems to blend contemporary story elements with supernatural/paranormal events. Can you think of examples in media, literature or personal experiences that mix realism and fantasy? (Curriculum link: Media Literacy)
10. If you had to design a book cover for HAUNTED, what images, fonts and visual elements would you use to capture the essence of the story? Explain your choices. (Curriculum links: Visual Arts, Marketing/Advertising)