

## Escaping The Nazis Discussion Guide Grades 3-8

### **Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.**

- What is secret police? How is it different from a regular police?
- What does a person need to survive in the wild?
- Why would some people help strangers even this could put themselves in danger?
- Frontload vocabulary: see vocabulary list

### **During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.**

- What is the *Brattholm's* mission?
- What is the escape plan for if the Nazis finds them?
- As the Germans are approaching, what is everyone doing? How long do the men have before the ship explodes?
- What happens to Jan's gun? How does he get away?
- Why does Jan decide to continue his journey alone?
- How many stops in total does Jan make on his way to Sweden?

### **After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

- Why does Jan have to get to Sweden? Why does everyone that he meets help him, even if it would put them in danger?
- Who would you be willing to help? If a stranger comes to your door, what would you do?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.