

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits are available to library patrons for use by home and community discussion groups, as well as teachers in the classroom setting. Each kit contains a set of thirty identical soft-cover books accompanied by a book discussion guide. The guides feature information about the author, reviews of the book, discussion questions, suggested further readings, and other pertinent information. Each kit is packaged in a canvas tote bag and may be borrowed for six weeks.

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits may be reserved and sent to the library branch of your choice for pick up. If you would like to reserve a kit, please stop by your local library branch or call **574-1611**. The kits may also be reserved through our website www.lfpl.org. A list of all the kits may be found at www.lfpl.org/teenpages/bookkits.htm



Children's & Young Adult Services
301 York Street
Louisville, KY 40203
502-574-1620

Information for this flyer was partially gathered from the following resources:

"Hiaasen, Carl." *Current Biography*. The H.W. Wilson Company, 1997. Retrieved January 16, 2007: <http://vnweb.hwwilsonweb.com>.

O'Dell, Katie. (2007) "Hoot - Talk it Up." Multnomah Public Library. Retrieved January 16, 2007: www.multcolib.org/talk/guides-hoot.htm.



A Reader's Guide to
Young Adult Book
Discussion Kit
Hoot
By Carl Hiaasen

Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads

**Young Adult Book
Discussion Kits**



Summary:

Roy Eberhardt has just moved to Florida and is hating every minute of it--until he sees the running boy. Roy has spotted him a couple of times, running *away* from the school bus, with no backpack, no books and no shoes. Who is he? And why is he running? He doesn't get on the school bus, and Roy can't find him anywhere at the middle school. It's the first interesting thing that's happened since he moved to Florida, and he wants to find out more. But as soon as he starts asking questions about the running boy, he's confronted by one of the biggest bullies in the school, Beatrice Leep, otherwise known as Beatrice the Bear. She makes it very clear that the running boy is none of Roy's business. Meanwhile, there's another mystery brewing in Roy's town. Who left the live alligators in the porta-potties at the construction site of a new restaurant? And why?

About the Author

Pronunciation: (HIE-uh-suhn)

"Humor can be an incredible lacerating and effective weapon," the writer Carl Hiaasen has said. "And that is the way I use it." In his novels and his columns for the Miami Herald, Hiaasen has used his barbed wit to call public attention to governmental corruption, corporate greed, and the destruction of his beloved

Florida wilderness. In his novels, he enlivens his serious messages with odd-ball characters and improbable plots. Hiaasen turned to fiction because, "I can write my own endings, and for once the bad guys get what they deserve."

Carl Hiaasen was born on March 12, 1953 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He spent many hours in the wild, fishing with his father and exploring with his friends. Even during Hiaasen's childhood, however, Florida was becoming more and more developed, to accommodate the increasing influx of tourists and new residents. Hiaasen has railed against the destruction of the Florida hinterland in his novels and newspaper columns.

-- Biography from *Current Biography*

What the Critics Say...

"Though readers will have few doubts about the success of the kids' campaign, several suspenseful scenes build to the denouement involving sitcom-like unraveling of a muckity-muck at the pancake house. These, along with dollops of humor, help make the novel quite a hoot indeed."

~*Publishers Weekly*

Awards and Recognition

2005 Young Reader's Choice Award Junior Division Nominee

2003 Newbery Honor book

Discussion Questions:

- 1) By the end of the book, Roy feels at home in Florida. Where do you feel most at home?
- 2) If you could write yourself into this book, how/where would you fit?
- 3) If you were the author, what would you do differently?
- 4) If you had to give this book a new title, what would it be?
- 5) There was a lot of humor in this book. Share one of your favorite moments.
- 6) Describe a scene from this book that made you angry.
- 7) Where does this story take place? What is the setting?
- 8) Who was your favorite character? Why?
- 9) Who is Beatrice Leep? Describe her. Who is Running Boy? Describe him.
- 10) Why is Beatrice so protective of her stepbrother?
- 11) Why was the construction site so important?
- 12) What is the best way to deal with a bully? What makes someone become a bully?

13) How is the conflict resolved? What finally happens?

14) If you've seen the movie, how did the movie and the book differ? How were they similar? Was there one you preferred more?

Other books you might like:

- ***Lostman's River***
by Cynthia DeFelice
- ***Tree Girl***
by T.A. Barron
- ***Riding the Flume***
by Patricia Curtis Pfitsch
- ***Holes***
by Louis Sachar
- ***Flush***
by Carl Hiaasen