

Flush Discussion Questions

Directions:

- All Year 2 (7th grade) students should read *Flush* by Carl Hiaasen and be prepared to discuss the book in homeroom during the first week of school.
- Additionally, students should write 3 higher order questions about the book. Higher order questions should begin with a “how” or “why” and should NOT be answered with a “yes” or “no”.
- Finally, all students should prepare answers to 5 of the questions below, choosing one from each Global Context Category. The prepared answers will be used in a teacher-facilitated discussion during the first week of school.

This assignment (3 student-written questions & 5 prepared answers) will be collected by the homeroom teacher.

Globalization & Sustainability

1. Review the descriptions of Thunder Beach (physical space and wildlife) on pages 27—29. Discuss what you know about local Tampa Bay environments (physical space and wildlife). What economic activities (tourism, boating, etc) might have an impact on these environments?
2. The Florida Keys are a National Marine Sanctuary. Visit <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/> to find out more information about National Marine Sanctuaries. What is the purpose of a National Marine Sanctuary?

Identities & Relationships

1. Grandpa Bobby describes Paine as a good man, “but sometimes his brain takes a nap and lets his heart take the tiller.” (page 209) What does this statement mean? How do Noah and Abbey use their hearts and their brains to expose Dusty? (source: <http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/>)*
2. Paine says, “I’m not a common criminal. I know right from wrong.” (page 3) Do you think what Paine did was right, and if so, why is he in jail? (source: <http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/>)*

Fairness & Development

1. What is one local issue affecting our water supply? How can you make an impact on helping to solve this issue?
2. What is one global issue affecting our water supply? How does this impact certain communities more than others?

Scientific & Technical Innovation

1. Refer to the Underwood’s plan to expose Dusty Muleman & the *Coral Queen*’s illegal dumping (pg. 216-217). Think of another situation (either you have experienced or read about) in which humans have used their understanding of scientific principles or technological advances to solve a problem. Describe this situation and any significant impact it made.
2. Compare and contrast the ways Noah and his father tried to initiate change. How did their approaches affect the outcome differently?

Orientation in Time & Space

1. Hiaasen devotes time to father-son relationships. Discuss the relationship between Noah and his father. Does Paine expect too much of his young son...is he right to depend on Noah? What does Noah learn from this father? What about the book's other father-son relationships—Jasper, Jr. and Dusty Muleman? (source: <https://www.litlovers.com/reading-guides/>) *

***Sources noted are not intended to direct student research.**