



Activity Pack

Summer Book Club

Welcome to Summer Book Club. We are really pleased that you can join us reading Ross Montgomery's *The Chime Seekers*, a fantasy adventure about siblings, courage and the magic that hides in the cracks.

This is your activity pack to use alongside reading the book. It has questions about the book and suggestions for activities you can try. Do as many as you can, or make up your own. This pack is designed to be used over 4 weeks, but you can use it at whatever speed works for you.

Enjoy your reading and have a great summer!

How it Works

1. Read some of the book each week (the questions and activities are divided into four weeks)
2. Think about the questions for each week
3. Try some of the activities suggested
4. Come back to school ready to share what you thought about the book and the activities you did
5. Join in the live online event with Ross Montgomery in September
6. Enjoy!

Week 1: Read pages 1-96

Week 2: Read pages 97-191

Week 3: Read pages 192-281

Week 4: Read pages 282-374



BOOK CLUBS
IN SCHOOLS

Charity number 1185409



WALKER
BOOKS



Week 1

The Chime Seekers by Ross Montgomery

Read Pages 1-96

Questions to think about

- 1 How does Yanni react to his family's new home? Why are his parents so excited about it and why doesn't he like it?

- 2 How does Yanni feel about his little sister? Do you have any younger brothers or sisters? Or are you a younger sibling? How well do you get on with your siblings? If you are an only child, do you wish you had siblings?

- 3 What does Yanni find when he visits Fallow Hall? Is it a promising place to live? What makes somewhere 'home'?

- 4 What does Yanni say before "everything changed"? p49 How does Lorde Renwin trick Yanni? What has happened to Ari - is Amy right?



Activities

- 1 Look at the cover of the book. What can you see? Can you find:
 - a hat
 - faeries (how many?)
 - hidden eyes
 - any animals or birds
 - a spooky welcome

- 2 Yanni is about to start a new school - what is he worried about? What advice would you give him? Write a list of the things he might be worried about and against each one think of something he could do to that would make it less of a problem and allow him to worry less about it.

- 3 What is another name for All Hallow's Eve? Do you like going out Trick or Treating or do you prefer to stay at home and watch a scary film? Design some spooky decorations or snacks with an All Hallow's Eve theme. You could include a drawing of the face you would carve into a pumpkin.



About the Author

Ross has always loved reading, writing and telling stories – he began by reading old Beano annuals and drawing his own comic strips, but soon moved onto longer chapter books and quickly realized what stories can do! Ross was a school teacher for seven years but is now a full-time writer.

- Visit Ross Montgomery's website at <http://rossmontgomery.co.uk>
- Look up his other books online.
- Which one looks most interesting?
- Which cover do you like the best?
- What kind of pet does Ross have and what is its name?



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Week 1 - Design your own Gateway to Another World

Yanni and Amy go through the fireplace into the Land of Fae. Can you think of any other stories that involve going through an ordinary object that turns out to be a gateway into another world? Imagine you are writing your own story where this happens and draw your own gateway, using labels to explain how it works:

- What does the gateway look like?
- How does it open?
- What does it feel like to pass through it?
- What is on the other side?
- How do you get back?





Week 2

The Chime Seekers
by Ross Montgomery

Read Pages 97-191

Questions to think about

- 1 Why does Yanni offer Lorde Renwin a wager? Do you think he was right to do so? What else he could have done?
- 2 How are Yanni and Amy getting on? Do you think they will be able to work together? How useful is Amy's knowledge from Orc's Quest? Is Amy right to challenge Yanni about how he treats her?
- 3 Why do you think Yanni is able to resist being totally overpowered by Lorde Renwin? What does he have that Lorde Renwin doesn't have? What is protecting Yanni and does he know what it is?
- 4 What do you think Gustiver's story is? Why is he controlled by Lorde Renwin? Do you think he wants to help?



Activities

- 1 Yanni could hear the faerie chimes when walking around Fallow Hall. What sounds can you hear when you walk around your area? Pause and listen carefully. Can you hear:
 - traffic?
 - bird song?
 - music playing?
 - talking?
 - children playing?
 - building works?
 - a lawnmower
 - anything else?
- 2 What do faeries look like? How are they described in the book? See if you can find examples of how they have been drawn or painted. Have a go at drawing your own faerie - it could be Lorde Renwin or one you make up.
- 3 Why do you think cupcakes are also called 'fairy cakes'? Look up a recipe and ask if you can make some at home. Decorate them with themes from the book and take photographs so you can share your creations.



Get out and about

Yanni and Amy go into another world for their adventure. There are adventures on your doorstep too, if you look for them. Where could you go on your bike, scooter or skateboard? Are there any parks or open spaces near where you live, or good places to go for a walk? See if you can encourage your friends or family to come out with you too.

- Why not try geocaching - a free worldwide outdoor treasure hunting game. Find out more here: www.gagb.org.uk
- For help planning where to go, try looking up 'parks' on your local council website or try these sites: www.sustrans.org.uk www.wildlifetrusts.org/visit



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Week 2 - Create your own Portrait Gallery

The hallway of the dark tower has portraits of Lorde Renwin in all his different roles. Pick another character in the book and create a series of portraits of them in their different roles and times in their life. For example Yanni: as a toddler; starting primary school; just before his sister was born; arriving in Fallow Hall; starting Riddleton School. Try using different materials such as pencil, pen, paint, collage etc. Also think about the frames they go in - all of Lorde Renwin's had elaborate gold frames, what type of frames would suit other characters?

If you prefer you could do some self portraits from different times in your life.





Week 3

The Chime Seekers
by Ross Montgomery

Read Pages 192-281

Questions to think about

- 1 How are the worlds of Hallow Fall and Fallow Hall connected? What are the traces of Hallow Fall above the ground?
- 2 How does Yanni's relationship with Larry change? What does he realise about his behaviour and how best to respond to it? How might this change how he thinks about other relationships in his life?
- 3 Which of the three quests do you think was the hardest? Which would you have been most scared of doing? Do you think Amy is right when she says, "I think you have to be frightened to be brave"? p247
- 4 How did you feel when Yanni returns to the tower after the final quest? Is Lorde Renwin's response fair? What might Yanni do next?



Activities

- 1 Some people believe that it is possible to spot signs of faeries. Have a look at this article about fairy rings <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/08/what-is-a-fairy-ring/> Is there anywhere local where you could try and spot a fairy ring? Take a photo or draw the circle if you find one. Do you think there is any truth in the myth?
- 2 Amy teaches Yanni to always "check your inventory". Try checking your own inventory of a bag or drawer that may have forgotten things left in it. Make a list of what you find. What was it originally for? Why have you kept it? What other uses might it have - use your imagination and think of what it might be used for in the Land of Fae.
- 3 Are faeries and fairies the same thing? Have a go at looking up the origins of the two words and whether they mean the same thing. Why is one sometimes used rather than the other?



Libraries and Museums

Yanni uncovers an uncomfortable secret about Fallow Hall's history. What do you know about your local area and its history? Why not visit a local museum? Or your local library? They may have a local history section. Libraries are not only a great place to find books, but also many lend DVDs and have computers you can use.

- Do some research and find out about any museums that are near you. Many are free or have discounted tickets for local residents.
www.museums.co.uk
www.visitbritain.com
- To find your local library
www.gov.uk/local-library-services



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Week 3 - Draw a Map

Yanni and Amy rely on the signpost for directions - it would be much easier if they had a map. Imagine you had to find your way in the Land of the Fae - draw a map of everywhere that Yanni and Amy went showing the fireplace, the Tower, the Goblin Fortress, the Enchanted Ruin and the Galleon and all the places they went through to get there.





Week 4

The Chime Seekers by Ross Montgomery

Read Pages 282-374

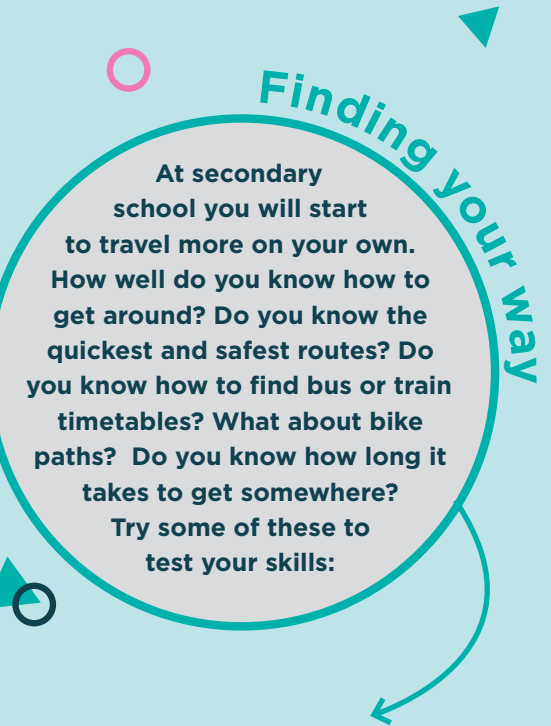
Questions to think about

- 1 What is the significance of Lord Renwin's real name? How does it relate to Yanni? How did Yanni work out what it was?
- 2 What does Yanni learn about himself during his last quest? When does he realise what he needs to do? How did you feel when he cries "I tricked you"? p338
- 3 Why do you think they aren't allowed to remember anything of what has happened? (p354) Do you think they will ever return to the Land of Fae?
- 4 Does your opinion of Yanni change as you read the book? How does Amy change through the book? What have they both learnt?



Activities

- 1 Names are really important in the book. Yanni and Ari have Greek names because of their family's heritage. Find out the origins of your name. Do you know why your parents chose it? Why do you think names are so powerful?
- 2 Write your own review of the book. Here are some ideas about what to include:
 - a short summary of the story (no spoilers!)
 - is it exciting/scary/funny etc.?
 - why you enjoyed it/didn't enjoy it
 - your favourite part or character
 - who you think would enjoy reading it
 - any similar books you know
- 3 Do you think that Yanni and Amy might have another adventure together? What do you think might open up the Land of Fae again? Write a short outline of what might happen in their next story.



Plan your route to school next year.

- What is the quickest way to get there?
- When will you need to leave home?
- Is there an alternative way to get there if your usual way is disrupted?
- If you are unsure about doing it, can you ask someone to practise with you?



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Week 4 - Make your own Board Game or School Club

Amy introduces Yanni to Orc's Quest. Have a go at making your own board game that involves players succeeding at different quests.

- What are the rules?
- How is it played?
- Does it have special dice like Orc Quest?
- How do you win?

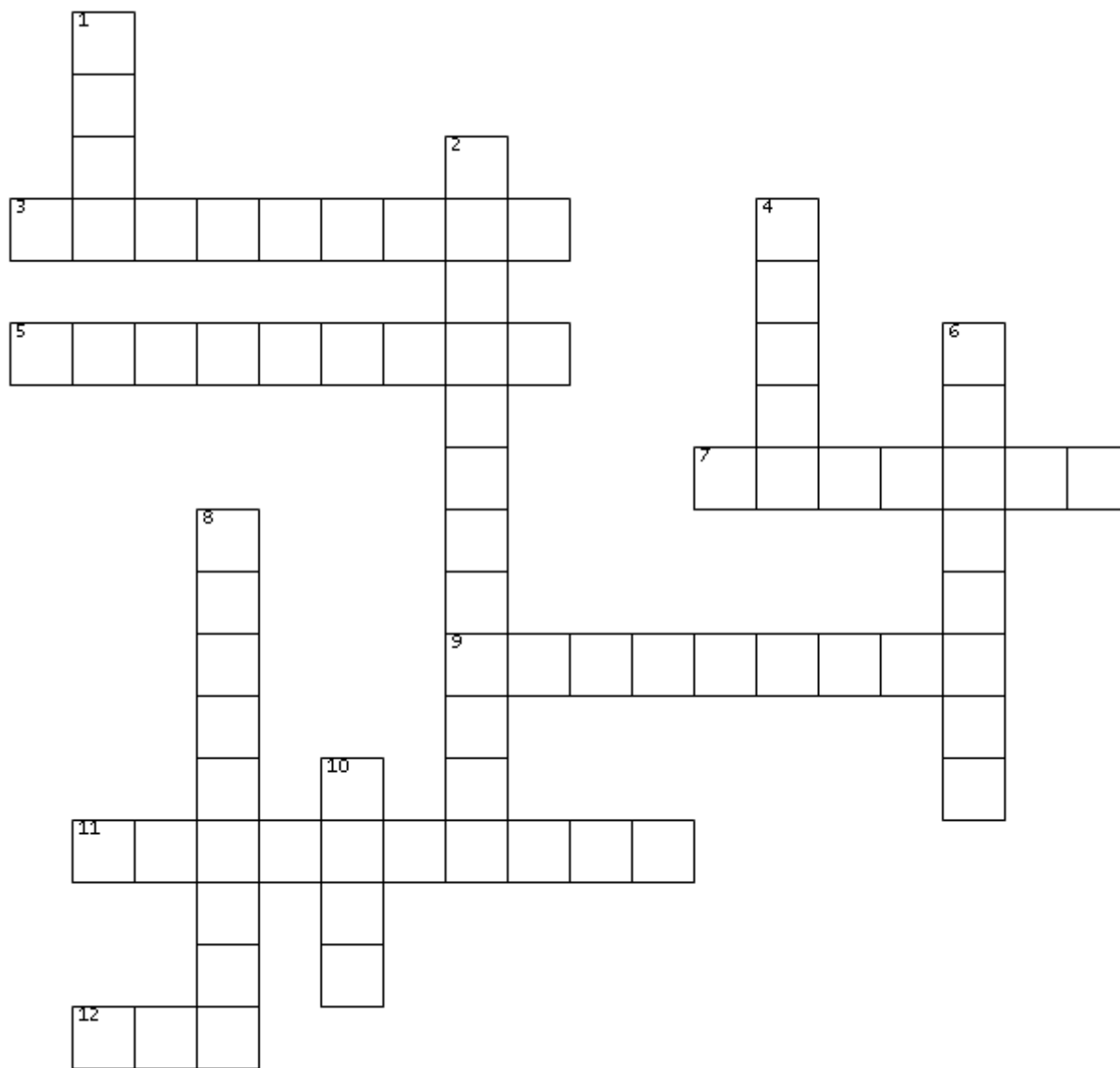
Alternatively, think up a school club that you would like to set up. Something that school is unlikely to already run.

- What is it called?
- Who is it for?
- What will you do?



Crossword

See if you can complete the crossword below. All the answers are in the book.



ACROSS

3. Yanni's new school (9)
5. What Yanni and Amy swapped a fifty pence coin and two dice for (9)
7. Ari's full name (7)
9. Amy's favourite game (4,5)
11. Where Yanni's family moved to (6,4)
12. What the frog was missing (3)

DOWN

1. Yanni's protection (4)
2. Where the Elixir of Life is to be found (5,2,5)
4. The thing a faerie can't resist (5)
6. The strongest form of faerie magic (8)
8. Gateway to the Land of Fae (9)
10. Gustiver's real name (4)