

Roanoke The Lost Colony
Discussion Guide
Grades 3-7

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

- What is a colony?
- Why would people choose to make a home in a new place? What could be the reasons why people abandon a place?
- Frontload vocabulary: see the vocabulary list

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

- Who is Thomas Hariot? What is he known for?
- Who were the first people to make a home in Roanoke?
- How was the English colonists' trip to Roanoke? Use three sentences to summarize.
- What problems did Roanoke face in the 1590s?
- Do you have any clues why Roanoke was abandoned? What could these markings mean?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

Compare Roanoke with one island you know. What are the similarities? What are the differences?

Roanoke is a place full of mysteries. What part of Roanoke's story do you find most mysterious? Why?

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.