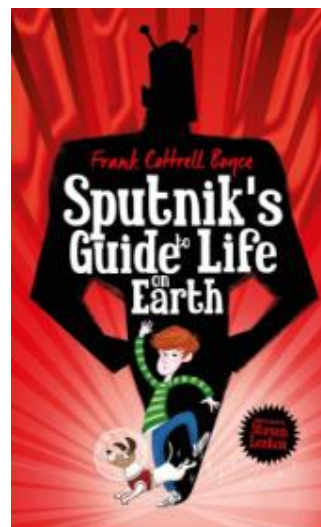


2017 Carnegie Medal shortlist Talking Points

Title: **Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth**

Author: **Frank Cottrell Boyce**

Publisher: **Macmillan**



PREZ

What is a “Temporary Kid”, and how has Prez ended up as one of these?

How did you like his new family, the Blythes?

How does Prez’s relationship with his grandfather change between the beginning of the book and the end?

SPUTNIK

Why does Sputnik want to save our planet?

Sputnik can do things that clearly are impossible in our world – but did the author make them seem believable? And which of Sputnik’s powers would you most like to have for yourself?

Why do you think he appears to everybody but Prez as a dog?

ALIENS

If an alien did come down to earth, what about humans do you think they would find strangest?

And what would want to ask them about *their* lives?

If you had to choose “ten things”, what would be on your list?

THE STYLE OF THE BOOK

Did you think the illustrations suited the story? Did they change how you read and imagined it?

Did you find this book funny?

But even if you think it’s a funny book, and a fun one to read, do you think it’s trying to say some serious things, too?

ENDING

Are you glad it ended the way it did?

What has Prez learned by the end of the story?

Among other things, the book is about why home is important – once you'd finished reading it, did it make you think about your home, and this world of ours, differently?

AND FINALLY...

Does this Carnegie-shortlisted book deserve to win? Why, or why not?



The CILIP Carnegie
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Awards