



Puffin Books

BODYGUARD: **HOSTAGE by Chris Bradford**

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSION GUIDE



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ISBN: 978-01-413-4005-0

**IN A DANGEROUS WORLD,
EVERYONE NEEDS PROTECTION.**

ABOUT THE BOOK

BODYGUARD: HOSTAGE is the new thriller from Chris Bradford, bestselling author of *Young Samurai*. *Bodyguard* is a bulletproof action-adventure series that fans of *Cherub* and *Alex Rider* will love. This is *Lee Child* for younger readers - *Jason Bourne* for the next generation.

With the rise of teen stars, the intense media focus on celeb families and a new wave of billionaires, adults are no longer the only target for hostage-taking, blackmail and assassination - kids are too.

That's why they need a young bodyguard like Connor Reeves to protect them.

Recruited into the ranks of a covert young bodyguard squad, 14-year-old Connor Reeves embarks on a rigorous close protection course. Training in surveillance, anti-ambush exercises, hostage survival and unarmed combat, he's put through his paces and wonders if he will actually survive the course.

But when the US President summons Connor to protect his impulsive teenage daughter, Connor's training is put to the ultimate test. For Connor discovers that the First Daughter, Alicia, doesn't want to be guarded. She just wants to have fun. And with no clue Connor is her bodyguard, Alicia tries to elude her Secret Service agents and lead Connor astray. But unknown to her, a terrorist sleeper cell has been activated.

Its mission: to take the president's daughter **HOSTAGE**...

BODYGUARD: HOSTAGE

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES SHEET AND DISCUSSION GUIDE

Discussion

1. In chapter 8, Connor meets the Alpha Team, describe members of the team and what their work roles are.
2. Connor is surprised to find that one of his fellow Buddyguards, Charley, is a wheelchair user. Describe why it is important to have people with disabilities working with able-bodied people.
3. In chapter 10, Connor learns about the 'Cooper Colour Code'. In your own words describe what this is and why it is important.
4. In chapter 16, Connor is in the shopping centre - what makes him think that he is being followed?
5. In chapter 29, Connor meets the U.S. President for the first time - describe Connor's first impressions of President Mendez.
6. There are 2 ceremonial flags in the President's office, what do each of them represent?
7. In chapter 42, Connor learns about the 'I have a dream' speech. Who gave this speech and when? Describe why it was such an important speech.
8. Alicia explains to Connor how being the President's daughter is not easy. Write a short piece on the advantages and disadvantages of being rich and famous in the 21st Century.

Creative Writing

Here are 15 words taken from BODYGUARD: HOSTAGE. Write a short story using at least 10 of them (you could use all 15 if you want !) You are allowed to use the words more than once. Target word count: 500-1000 words.

freedom	resource	obscured	glare	surveillance
opportunity	silhouette	confidential	soundproof	overt
surfer	disintegrate	hero	rescue	exchange

White House Trivia Quiz

1. How many rooms are there in the White House?
2. The White House has had a number of different names at various times in history, can you discover any of them?
3. How many gallons/litres of paint does it take to paint the outside of the White House?
4. How many Presidents have there been in the USA?
5. Which 4 presidents have been assassinated?
6. Research which children's toy is associated with Theodore Roosevelt and describe how this came about.
7. What is the name of the official Office where the President works?
8. Find out at least 3 pieces of information about this Office.
9. What is The West Wing and who works there?
10. There are many famous paintings and works of art at the White House. Research and describe at least 2 of them.

Useful website: www.whitehouse.gov

Technology & Surveillance

1. Computer technology is used widely in the communications between Connor, the White House Security, the Hostage takers and his fellow Buddyguards. Describe some of the methods used.
2. What is the difference between surveillance, counter-surveillance and anti-surveillance? Then describe some methods you could use for anti-surveillance.

Debate: Ransom demands

The US has a 'zero-tolerance' to ransom demands, as do some other countries such as Britain and Canada. However some countries take the opposite view and are prepared to negotiate with terrorists to get their fellow countrymen released.

1. Discuss in small groups your views on paying for the release of hostages.
2. Write up a list of pros and cons for dealing with a hostage-taking situation.

Art

1. In chapter 7, Connor arrives at his training camp in Wales. From your imagination or from the brief description given in that chapter, draw your interpretation of the Headquarters building.
2. Design your own Bodyguard ID card with photo, tag-name, key info, etc

BODYGUARD: **HOSTAGE**

ANSWERS & WEBSITES

Discussion

6. There are 2 ceremonial flags in the President's office, what do each of them represent?

One is the Stars and Stripes (The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states of the USA and the 13 stripes represent the 13 British colonies that declared independence from the United Kingdom). The other flag is the President's blue coat of arms.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_the_United_States

White House Trivia Quiz

1. How many rooms are there in the White House? **132 rooms**
2. The White House has had a number of different names at various times in history, can you discover any of them? **'The President's Palace', the President's House' and 'The Executive Mansion'**
3. How many gallons/litres of paint does it take to paint the outside of the White House? **570 gallons/2591.3 litres**
4. How many Presidents have there been in the USA? **44 by 2013**
5. Which 4 presidents have been assassinated? **Abraham Lincoln, James A Garfield, William McKinley and John F. Kennedy.**
6. Research which children's toy is associated with Theodore Roosevelt and describe how this came about.
http://inventors.about.com/od/tstartinventions/a/Teddy_Bear.htm
7. What is the name of the official Office where the President works?
Oval Office
8. Find out at least 3 pieces of information about this Office.
9. What is The West Wing and who works there? **The Offices of the White House and where the Oval Office is located. His staff work there.**
10. There are many famous paintings and works of art at the White House. Research and describe at least 2 of them.

WEBSITES

www.bodyguard-books.co.uk

www.chrisbradford.co.uk