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MOVIES SHOWING NOWHERE

EDUCATOR
GUIDE



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PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S

ABOUT

On the day Cate came into the world, her mother left it. Ever since, Cate's dad has become distant and silent, locked in his own little world. Cate has to keep herself entertained — with kung fu films, her pet rabbit and her photography hobby — until one day she receives an invitation to a mysterious, abandoned cinema, and everything changes.

At the cinema, Cate meets the strange Mrs Kano, who introduces her to a most unusual kind of movie theatre — the kind that lets you step into a memory. So begins a wonder-filled adventure through time that will teach Cate the true meaning of love, loss and learning to let go.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

She had trained herself to 'look side-ways', as she called it. That meant not looking at the things that automatically drew your attention, but at what was right beside them instead. She had discovered an entire world there, hiding in plain sight. (Music from the Past, p 21)

One of the special things about Cate is that she 'looks side-ways' at the world. What are some things that she sees differently to others?

Is there anyone else in the novel that you think 'looks side-ways'?

Why do you think it is important to 'look side-ways'? Is there anything that you notice that others don't?



Cate couldn't help but admire the way Cornelia had wormed her way so deep into their lives. She'd started off as a concerned and helpful neighbour who just wanted to lend her helpless, single neighbour a hand. Very slowly, almost unnoticed, she'd wriggled her way deeper and deeper into their lives. (Strangely Familiar, p 30)

How does Cate's opinion of Cornelia change throughout the novel?
Did your opinion of her change?

Why do you think that Cornelia tries so hard to become a part of Cate and her dad's lives?

That was something she always did – follow her curiosity. With varying degrees of success. Like that time she'd sniffed a carton of milk that had been stuck behind the radiator in the school corridor for three weeks and had to get stitches in her cheek when the stench made her faint and she hit the heater on the way down. (The First Visitor, p 70)

Cate always follows her curiosity, but this can sometimes get her into trouble.
Can you think of a time in the novel when following her curiosity paid off, and another when it had negative consequences?

Can you remember a time when you followed your curiosity? How did it go?

But what was mainly haunting Cate's thoughts – ever since the word memory had been mentioned – was her mum, a thought as restless as a shadow in candlelight. Her mum's dress... the object in the black box. The photograph of her mum on the bench... the memory in the projector. Was it possible? (Time-Mate, p 92)

Why do you think that Cate has such a need to see the memory of her mum?
Why does she wait so long before travelling back to see it?

Is there a particular memory that you would like to travel back into?



Think about the memory that you would most like to go back to and describe the experience of seeing it through Mrs Kano's cinema. It can be as wild and wacky as you like, so feel free to draw some pictures as well.

[illegible]