

SUMMER ADVENTURES
ON THE ROAD

Book Quest



ADVENTURE GUIDE HANDBOOK

Dear Adventure Guide,

Welcome!

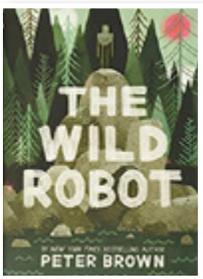
Book quests are interactive journeys that guide young readers through a series of challenges to connect them to the characters, engage them in the plot of the story, and activate their inner explorer's mindset. We are grateful you will be a guide along the way and have designed this **Adventure Guide Handbook** to help you lead your readers through each step of the quest.

We hope readers leave this quest with an increased curiosity, wonder, and a deepened love of reading - and continue reading as a way to further their own exploration of the world. And we hope you'll be inspired to keep guiding readers and learning alongside them as more book quests are developed over time.

Yours in Navigation,

Captain Atlas

Mystery Literary Navigator





ABOUT THE BOOK

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown is a thoughtful story about family, friendship, community, survival, and growth. Learn more [here](#) and find behind-the-scenes details and additional resources for further engagement in the story. This book is ideal for readers ages 8-11.

ABOUT THIS BOOK QUEST

The Wild Robot is a story about empathy and community. It is also a story about human impact on the environment and the wildlife who live on Earth. Mostly, it's a story about the future and how nothing is ever set in stone. The challenges for this book quest take readers on a journey of curiosity, action, reflection, and empowerment. These challenges are meant to get readers out of their comfort zones and build confidence toward taking action.

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Explore More



AT A GLANCE

How a Book Quest Works

1

GET READY

- Read this **Adventure Guide Handbook**
- Read the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**

You might consider:

- surprising your reader by leaving it in the mailbox or a special place. Create mystery around its arrival.
- checking out the book from your local library.
- downloading an audiobook version or reading aloud, which are great ways to engage young learners in the book quest if they are reluctant or not fully independent readers. The challenges along the way do not require access to the text itself.

2

GET READING

- Provide your reader with the book and the invitation letter from Captain Atlas.
- Have them begin reading and get ready to stop for the first set of clues, which reveal their first challenge.

The videos from National Geographic Explorers are meant to provide the rest of the clues to readers and launch them on their challenges, but they are also meant to help readers awaken the explorer within themselves.

3

CHALLENGE TIME!

- Clues are provided in two halves. The first half is in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**.
- The second half is delivered via video from a National Geographic Explorer. All videos can be found on [Learn Anywhere](#).
- Adventurers should record the video clue in their **Field Notebook** and then put the clues together to receive their challenge.
- They perform the challenge and record evidence of their accomplishments in their **Field Notebook**. They can collect evidence in a variety of ways such as through photos, artwork, videos, or written accounts.

4

BONUS TIME!

- Readers have the opportunity to gain experience and knowledge by performing bonus tasks.
- They are not necessary to successfully perform the challenges but can be helpful in gaining a deeper understanding of concepts in the book.
- Bonus opportunities can be accessed in the **Field Notebook**.

Ideas of how to celebrate:

- Spend a day with your reader exploring an opportunity connected to the story.
- Give a small gift that may enhance the love they have for the characters.
- Even a small amount of recognition can go a long way towards building a young reader's confidence.

5

CELEBRATE!

- Provide your reader(s) with the congratulations letter and perhaps a thoughtful token, gift, or experience if you're able to do so.
- Consider celebrating with other Adventurers across the globe by posting on social media with the hashtag **#ExplorerMindset**.

NEED TO KNOW

About a Book Quest

How are the books selected?

- They typically are chosen for readers ages 8-14. Explore the book on your own to determine if it is well suited for your reader. Book quests can be enjoyed as traditional print books, audiobooks, or as read-alouds.
- They typically have a connection to deepening understanding of the natural world, protecting the environment, exploring social responsibility, and taking action as a global citizen.
- Selections are based on their potential appeal to a diverse range of young audiences.
- They are stories that expand thinking, elicit open-mindedness, and connect a reader to the larger world represented by the story. Our hope is that these are the kinds of books that will help a reader fall in love with reading—for the first time or the hundredth!

What should I know about the challenges?

- They are meant to be fun, thought-provoking, active, and engaging.
- There may be multiple ways to approach a challenge, so encourage your reader to interpret the challenges through their own unique perspectives and context. For example, for young readers in an urban environment, if a challenge asks them to explore a natural setting, this might mean a local park rather than a backyard.
- They follow the [National Geographic Learning Framework](#). The goal of these challenges is to bring out the characteristics of an explorer within each reader, such as curiosity, responsibility, persistence, and critical thinking.

How can I be the best Book Quest Adventure Guide I can be?

- **Ask questions!** The best teaching tool is a well-framed question. Ask your reader things like:
 - What do you love most about the story so far?
 - What is confusing or troubling for you?
 - What does the story inspire you to do?
 - How does the story make you think and feel in new ways?
- **Extend and Expand.** Books are catalysts for other opportunities to learn or be inspired. Find what resonates with your reader to extend learning opportunities beyond the book. Some ideas: take mini-explorations within your surroundings that are connected to the story or its themes; watch movies together related to themes in the book; or read more books!

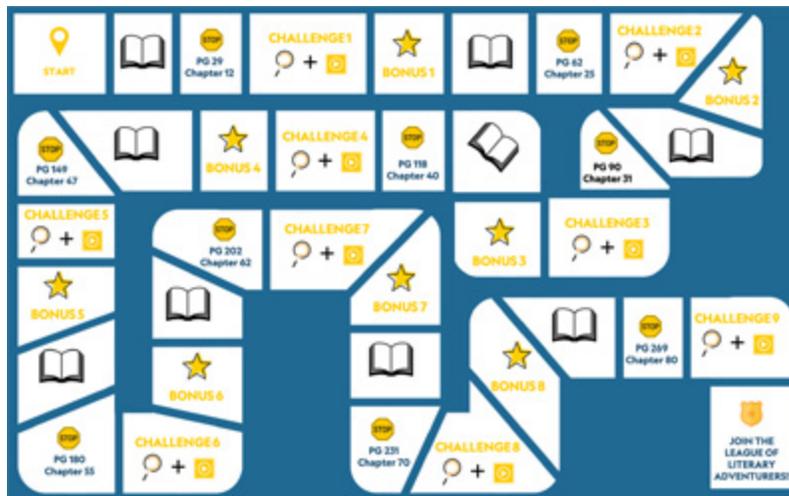
NEED TO KNOW

About a Book Quest

If your reader...	Then...
loved the illustrations?	give them a graphic novel next.
loved the relationships between the characters such as friendships, family relationships, or community connections?	give them a book with similar relationships next.
loved a particular set of facts, facet, or topics within the book such as the environment where it takes place, an issue a character faces, or something new they learned about?	give them a nonfiction book exploring that topic next.
didn't love the experience of reading, but is excited about the story anyway?	inspire them to write their own. And remember, writing stories can take many different forms, including prose, pictures, videos, poetry, lyrics, or drama.

Adventure Map

Below is the adventure map for *The Wild Robot*. A full-size version is included in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**.



Created by Ashley Lamb-Sinclair
 Additional resources: <https://www.bookquests.org>

STEP-BY-STEP

Guiding the *The Wild Robot* Book Quest

STEP 1

Start reading. The Adventurer should begin reading *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown. It is not required that you read a copy simultaneously, but could be helpful in guiding the challenges and provide an opportunity for rich discussion between you and your reader about the book.

STEP 2

Stop reading. The Adventurer should stop reading on page 29, Chapter 12 and perform Challenge 1.

STEP 3

Read the first half of Clue 1. The reader can find the first half of Clue 1 in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**. It's also in this guide.

STEP 4

Watch the second half of Clue 1. The second half of the clue can be found on [Learn Anywhere](#). As the Adventurer watches the clue they should take notes in their **Field Notebook** and then combine it with the first half to receive the whole clue. You can read the full clue on PG 9 of this guide.

STEP 5

Perform the challenge. As the reader performs the challenge, they should gather evidence of their success and record it in the **Field Notebook**. Evidence can be gathered in a variety of ways such as photo, video, and a written account.

STEP 6

Review the bonus challenge. Bonus challenges are optional and are a great way to learn more about a specific topic in the book. As with the other challenges, the Adventurer should record their accomplishment in the **Field Notebook**.

STEP 7

Start reading again. The Adventurer resumes reading and should stop when it's time for the next challenge.

STOP HERE:

PG 29
PG 62
PG 90
PG 118
PG 149
PG 180
PG 202
PG 231
PG 269

Chapter 12
Chapter 25
Chapter 31
Chapter 40
Chapter 47
Chapter 55
Chapter 62
Chapter 70
Chapter 80

THEN DO:

Challenge 1
Challenge 2
Challenge 3
Challenge 4
Challenge 5
Challenge 6
Challenge 7
Challenge 8
Challenge 9

CHALLENGE 1

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 1

(also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Roz is a curious robot, determined to survive, The animals think she's a monster when they see her arrive.

How odd it must be when robot meets the wild, If robots have feelings, she must be concerned and beguiled.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Imagine you too are a robot alien, new to your land,
Spend a day - even the night - learning what only a robot alien can.

Explore your world with new eyes, ears, mouth, hands, and nose -
Create a log of your observations and show the world what only a robot alien knows.

Book Connection

Roz arrives on an island without understanding how to survive there. However, she believes this is her home and her robot programming guides her to survive. A robot's best survival skill apparently? Observation.

Adventurer Challenge

Imagine you are a robot alien who has just entered your environment like Roz does on the island. Create a written, visual, or video log of what you observe. Use all five senses to explore. Get creative and give your alien robot character a name and personality as you explore through their eyes.

Bonus Challenge

*Are otters really that curious? Are crabs great climbers? Explore some basic information about a couple of Roz's animal encounters here. Record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

[Charlie & the Curious Otters](#)

[Wait, crabs can climb trees?!](#)

CHALLENGE 2

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 2

*(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)*

Roz observes a stick bug and voilà! she too learns to hide in plain sight; Suddenly the whole forest opens up to her senses day and night.

While a flower-covered robot may not be an everyday scene,
We all can learn from our environment - both person and machine!

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Take it from Roz and get curious about the world around you;
What can you explore right now that is waiting for an approach that's new?

Take apart that toaster, those earrings, that cookie, or some thingamabob;
Whatever you take apart and rethink, just remember that learning is an inside job.

Book Connection

Roz's robot mind is curious about how the other animals survive in the wilderness. She keeps observing, trying, and adjusting based on what she notices the animals around her doing. She learns to use camouflage and she learns how to communicate with the animals by listening closely and observing.

Adventurer Challenge

Get curious about the world around you. What is something in your environment that you do not currently understand but can learn about and explore? Always wondered how something works? Take it apart and put it back together (with adult permission, of course). Ever considered what your cat's day is really like? Or how your goldfish talks to you? Spend a day learning from them. What is in that perfect chocolate chip cookie from your favorite place? Do a taste test and try to recreate the recipe. You get the idea. See what new things you can learn, do, and create with a curious mind.

Bonus Challenge

*How do animals communicate? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

[Animal communication](#)

[How do animals communicate?](#)

CHALLENGE 3

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 3

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Pinktail plays dead and teaches Roz about performing,
Now the acting she does to be a good mother is truly heartwarming.

Mr. Beaver shows Roz how to build a nice home,
Now she and Brightbill have a place to call their own.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

New experiences like these are helping Roz grow and survive,
But the best lessons she's learning are teaching her to thrive.
Take it from Roz and try something new - something truly worth dropping a jaw, Expand your world just a bit and experience a learning aha!

Book Connection

So much is new for Roz, most especially becoming a new mother to a gosling! New experiences can be scary but also exciting. So many great things can come from stretching ourselves. For Roz, learning to perform like the opossum is helping her learn how to be a mother. Learning how to build from the beavers is helping her survive. New experiences can help all of us grow.

Adventurer Challenge

Seek out a new experience. Try something new that you have always wanted to do but were maybe too worried or scared to try. Maybe you have wanted to try an activity or sport that always seemed difficult or out of reach. Maybe you have wanted to make a new friend or reach out to an old one. Maybe you want to expand your world a bit with a new type of music or movie you wouldn't normally like. Stretch yourself. Do something new and see how it feels.

Bonus Challenge

*Do beavers really build? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

[Leave it to beavers: How beavers build dams](#)

[Beavers: Nature's engineers](#)

CHALLENGE 4

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 4

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

ChitChat thinks he annoys everyone with his constant chatter,
But for Brightbill and Roz - no matter his difference - his friendship most matters.

Sometimes those most different from us can become our best collaborators.
By embracing differences, we can transform others from instigator to educator.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Who or what around you has wisdom to offer?

Consider even those who before you may not have bothered.

Think of your friends and foes, people of all kinds;

Even the natural world offers wisdom - from creeks, to birds, to pines!

Book Connection

Roz collaborates with her new community to build a shelter, grow a garden, and raise Brightbill. She builds relationships based on mutual respect, even with creatures who are very different. Even Brightbill becomes best friends with ChitChat the squirrel, no matter how much he talks. Roz and Brightbill learn from others by honoring their wisdom.

Adventurer Challenge

Who or what around you has wisdom you may learn from? Consider all the people in your life, even those who may be very different from you or those whom you may even find difficult. Make a list or a web of who they are and what they might teach you from the wisdom they may hold. For example, is there a neighbor or relative who has a talent you could learn from, like an aunt who can play piano or a neighbor who skateboards? Now add to your list or web someone you may be very different from or even have a difficult relationship with, like a classmate or relative with whom you may have had a disagreement of some kind. Now add to your list or web something that is not a person but still might offer wisdom. For example, what might a tree teach us about patience? Or a bird about freedom? Expand your list or web as far as you can, listing all the people or things around you that you can learn from. Then pick one. Challenge yourself to pick one that may be difficult for you to fully understand. Then draw a picture or take a photo of that person or thing and write a single sentence to describe the wisdom that person or thing can offer you and others.

Bonus Challenge

*Does animal poo really help the environment? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

10 animals whose poop comes with perks

Fruit-eating, seed pooping animals can help restore degraded forests

CHALLENGE 5

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 5

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Roz has learned to listen and speak the language of the wilderness,
But communication can sometimes be tough - filled with strife or bitterness.

But even tough conversations are still worth having,
With bravery, what once was battling could eventually become laughing.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Take inspiration from Roz's conversational courage,
Share something honest and real with another - be encouraged!

Put your thoughts, feelings, or ideas into the world in some way,
By sharing ourselves, we can open up new pathways.

Book Connection

Roz learned how to communicate early in the book by listening and observing the animals around her. Now she is learning deeper communication skills that only come from close relationships with others. She is learning how to have difficult conversations like the ones she has with Brightbill. She is even learning about confrontation, like the experience she has with the bears. She is learning about emotions - those of others and those of herself.

Adventurer Challenge

Communicate something you are thinking, feeling, or experiencing. We can communicate in so many ways, so think about the best way for you to communicate what you are thinking, feeling, or experiencing. Consider writing a letter or song, creating a scrapbook or video, compiling a playlist, or speaking from the heart. Also consider someone - or something - who feels like a safe place to share what you are thinking, feeling, or experiencing. Put your thoughts, feelings, ideas, and experiences out there in some way that feels right for you. Then see what comes from opening yourself up to communication.

Bonus Challenge

What are robots in the real world like? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your Field Notebook.

Fun facts about robots!

What is the most advanced robot around today?

CHALLENGE 6

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 6

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Even though she herself was badly injured by another, Roz rescues Thorn because she is thinking like a mother. That is empathy in action - placing yourself in someone else's shoes. When living in a community, this is the path we often must choose.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Look around your own community - where might you use your gifts? With whom can you collaborate? What change might you shift? What do you have to offer the world around you? Find a team, get to work, and lead a community breakthrough.

Book Connection

Roz has truly become a member of the community. She collaborates with others and they, in turn, support her too. She saved Thorn even after he threatened her. Mother Bear carried Roz to safety after she was injured. The beavers built her a new foot. She taught Brightbill the best ways to fly. She lets the animals come to her lodge during the cold winter. Roz is learning that community is about give and take.

Adventurer Challenge

Look around your own community. What can you do to collaborate with your community members and create a better environment for everyone? Are there ways you can share your gifts with others? Are there ways to cultivate new skills through giving or collaboration? For example, are there local leaders or organizations who could use your talents? Is there a neighbor or relative who might benefit from something only you can provide? Put your gifts to use for the benefit of others and you'll be surprised what you might learn from the experience too.

Bonus Challenge

*How do birds fly? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

Find out how birds fly

How do birds fly?

CHALLENGE 7

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 7

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Roz's first winter on the island is deadly, but she offers support; She builds fires to keep them warm, so no one's life is cut short. Even the elder animals know this winter is unique, For they have never seen a winter this frigid and bleak.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

The island community doesn't understand their problems stem from climate change, But we readers know well the potential impacts long-range. Learn what you can right now, because like for Roz, it's time to put solutions to work. In brains just like yours are where the best solutions we have will lurk.

Book Connection

The animal community realizes how often Roz has solved problems for them, and Roz has realized that by becoming more wild like the animals around her, she has also learned how to be a more helpful problem-solver. A particular concern for the animals now is how harsh the winter was compared to winters past. The animals do not know why this is happening and neither does Roz, but they do understand all of their instincts are to survive.

Adventurer Challenge

Neither Roz nor the animals understand that the reason for the changes in their environment is climate change, but we as readers can not only understand the reason for their experiences but also create solutions to these problems. Look at your own community. What changes do you notice in the environment around you? How are animals and people in your community affected by these changes? What else do you notice around you that you suspect is related to climate change? Climate change is an issue that requires everyone to take action, and individual people like us have quite a bit of power to make change, especially in our local communities. Take some time to research and understand how climate change affects the environment, animals, and people around you. What can you control? What is within your power to change or solve? Brainstorm a list of local solutions to this global problem, then share that list widely. Share your ideas with your family, friends, neighbors, educators, or community leaders in the best way you can think of to get their attention. Your ideas could inspire change in others!

Bonus Challenge

*What causes forest fires? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

Forest fires: the good and the bad

Extreme weather: Climate feedback loops

CHALLENGE 8

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 8

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Brightbill discovers much on his journey south,
His tales of humans and robots spread by word of mouth.
Then trouble follows his stories and the world comes for Roz,
When the island community comes to battle for Roz's cause.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

That's what happens when community is created,
Action becomes easier because together, strength is consolidated.
Learn from these wild things and take any action you can,
Take the first step right now, then build a community plan.

Book Connection

Brightbill saw so many sights on his journey south and back. Some of those sights and experiences were disturbing and difficult. He realizes after seeing so many other robots how special Roz is and is happy to return home to her. Yet, it's hard to ignore some of the tough experiences they all endured during the long, cold winter, such as when new robots arrived on the island to take Roz back to the factory. Of course, they do not do so without a battle from the whole animal community. There are times for listening, times for talking, and then there are times for taking action.

Adventurer Challenge

All of your challenges have led you toward taking action. You have cultivated skills like observing, exploring new experiences and perspectives, and brainstorming solutions to problems. Now you are ready to take action. Through Roz's journey, we have learned so much about the animal world through the eyes of a robot. We have learned to look at problems with new eyes, which is the best way to create change. You have a list of solutions to problems you have observed in your community. What can you do today to take action toward one of your solutions? What plan can you make to take action over time? Take a step right now and make a plan for how you will continue creating ripples of change around you.

Bonus Challenge

*Do animals protect other animals? Explore some resources to find out, then record any important information you discover in your **Field Notebook**.*

Do animals protect other animals?

12 animals that protect their family and work together

CHALLENGE 9

The Wild Robot Book Quest

CLUE 9

(Also found in the **Adventurer's Field Notebook**)

Roz must fly away to protect her family and friends.

It is sad and she is fearful, but wouldn't hesitate to do it again.

She knows the community needs her and she needs them in return.

Wherever she goes now, it will be only for this island she will yearn.

(found in the Explorer video on [Learn Anywhere](#))

Sometimes two opposites can be true at the same time,

Like feelings of gratitude and self-determination and plans to climb.

Reflect on your own quest, the journey you have led,

Then make a plan to keep going toward a path only you can tread.

Book Connection

Roz's story concludes with, "However it happened, Roz felt lucky to have lived such an amazing life...And if she wanted to continue living, if she wanted to be wild again, she needed to be with her family and her friends on her island." Roz is a wild robot in her heart and she is grateful but determined to return to her island.

Adventurer Challenge

Like Roz, take time to reflect on your journey so far - on the changes within yourself and the changes you have created around you. You too lead an amazing life and you have finished a difficult quest. What are you grateful for? What are you determined to do next? As your final challenge, take the time to show gratitude to someone in your life and take another action step toward creating a better world around you. As Roz inspired so many others within her community, spend a moment inspiring someone else today.

EXPLORE MORE

Ways to Continue Exploring

BOOKS

The Wild Robot Escapes

by Peter Brown

Hoot

by Carl Hiaasen

The Wondrous Workings of Planet Earth

by Rachel Ignotofsky

The Last Wild

by Piers Torday

What Is Climate Change?

By Gail Herman and WHO HQ

Fuzzy Mud

by Louis Sachar

Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers

by Celia C. Pérez

[National Geographic Summer Book List](#)

ACTIVITIES

[Learn](#) more and take action to address climate change.

[Make a robot like Roz!](#)

[Animal activities](#)

TOPICS TO EXPLORE

[Robots](#)

[Climate change](#)

[Animal behavior](#)

[Animal communication](#)

[Ecosystems](#)

[National Geographic Explorers](#)

FILMS AND SHOWS

[Before the Flood](#)

[One Strange Rock](#)

[I Am Greta](#)

[Happy Feet](#)

[Wall•E](#)

[Big Hero 6](#)