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SON OF THE SEA

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CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

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Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
Front cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the cover, what do you think the book will be about? Who do you think the main characters will be? Where do you think it will be set? 		
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casper loves to swim in unusual places. What makes him abandon his swim this time? Describe how Mrs Marsh tried to stop Casper from getting into her garden. Can you support your answer from the text? Why have Casper's parents made sure their home is water-free? List some of the creative methods Casper's parents have devised to help them avoid having water at home. 	Write a diary entry from Casper's point of view, recording one of his vivid dreams about visiting the ocean.	<p>SCIENCE • Make a list of life-forms you might find in a fresh-water pond, and research a pond's appropriate pH balance. How do you think Casper would affect this?</p> <p>ART • Draw a picture of Casper - think about the setting, what accessories he might carry, and his features.</p>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does the weather forecast being wrong mean for Casper? What dream does the recorded interview with Beryl the Bazooka inspire in Casper? Why does the crack of thunder distract him from rewatching the video? Make a list of some of the interesting juices Casper drinks when he's thirsty. 	Write a news report about a local neighbourhood meeting detailing the resident's complaints about a boy swimming in unusual places. What would you highlight to your readers? Speculate about why he does this?	<p>GEOGRAPHY • What is the English Channel? Can you compile some facts and figures about it?</p> <p>P.E. • What are the current records for swimming the Channel?</p>



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3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Casper ensure he has an opportunity to swim at the supermarket? • Why do Casper's parents think his dream of swimming the Channel is a bad idea? • Why do you think Casper feels the 'happiest in a while' once they arrive at the supermarket? • Why is Casper's first reaction to the sergeant's good news confusion? • Why is Casper excited when he finds out his grandmother lives in Corallium? 		<p>ART • Make a replica model of the supermarket fountains. Think about how wide it would need to be to let Casper do a backstroke.</p>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can you infer from '<i>... smiled Ida, with only the slightest suggestion of offence?</i>' • Why is Casper wet when he meets Granny Ida? • What does Granny Ida mean by '<i>... your arrival will have brought the average age down by forty years?</i>' Can you support your answer from the text? • Does Casper sneaking off to see the sea fit with what you know off him so far? 	<p>Write a short folk tale, told in Corallium and set in the castle.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Research five types of shell creatures. Make a list of your findings.</p>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think his first sighting of the sea lives up to Casper's expectations? • Why does Wynn think the water in Corallium is special? • Why is Wynn not enthusiastic about Casper's plan to swim 	<p>Write a diary entry for Casper's first glimpse of the sea. Include what he can hear and feel physically.</p>	<p>SCIENCE/ARCHAEOLOGY • Research how fossils can be used to date places and artefacts. Name some periods</p>



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	<p>the Channel and set a record? Is this different from his parents' reasons?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casper has an eventful first swim in the sea. Why do you think this happens? 	<p>Describe Casper's dream when he goes to bed following his first swim in the sea.</p>	<p>that fossils have helped us date different eras in history.</p>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does Triton save Casper when he gets into trouble? What impression do we get of Beryl in this chapter? What does 'aghast' mean? How does Beryl react when Casper tells her of his dream to swim the Channel? Contrast this other people's reactions. List some of the swimming aids in Beryl's beach hut. Why is Casper careful to keep his webbed toes hidden? 	<p>Write a diary entry from Casper's point of view, recording one of his vivid dreams about visiting the ocean.</p>	<p>GEOGRAPHY • Learn about sand dunes – where they occur naturally and the ecosystems they support.</p>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Granny Ida makes Casper promise to stay out of the water. Do you think he intends to keep his promise? Both Beryl and Granny Ida insist the sea is powerful and must be respected. Do you think Casper understands what they mean? Casper has recurring dreams of the ocean, and when he gets to Corallium, brief water/sea related visions. Discuss what you think this means. Casper reacts to the bath his granny draws for him with glee. Would you do the same? 	<p>Write a scene where Casper and Wynn try to guess what might be in Granny Ida's locked cupboard.</p>	<p>GEOGRAPHY • Research rip currents – why are they dangerous?</p>



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8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify some descriptive language used by the author to describe the hotel. Why does Wynn think her dad is a bad winner? Why does Tan react badly to Casper? Explain why Casper becomes overwhelmed during lunch with Wynn and her family. What does Casper think when he realises Wynn is serious about the curse? Is he deterred? 	<p>Create a character profile of Wynn. Based on what you know of her so far, what would she carry in her pockets?</p>	<p>DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY • Research funicular systems. How are they powered? Design/build a model funicular system.</p>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you surprised Granny Ida encourages Casper and Wynn to head to beach after lunch? Discuss your answer. Why does Wynn inform Casper he'll need to visit the money exchange? The children try to avoid Agatha and feel uneasy around her. Discuss why they feel this way. 	<p>Create a tourist guide for Corallium. Include details about the funicular, L'Hotel Perle and the history and legends of Corallium.</p>	<p>SCIENCE/GEOLOGY • Research the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What type of rock is Gabbro? What type of rock is Basalt? Are they similar?
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pick out some descriptive language the author uses to describe scene that Casper and Wynn encounter as they follow the heather trail. What is 'Les Moules-Frites' in the text? What effect does the author achieve by using it? What does 'bazooka' mean? Why is Casper convinced he has an affinity with the sea and will be able to swim the channel? 	<p>Create a podcast episode recounting the curse that strikes young swimmers attempting to break Baby Face Bernie's record. Can you predict how the curse might strike next time?</p>	<p>PHILOSOPHY • Casper dismisses the curse repeatedly and thinks they are just unlucky accidents. Do you agree? What do you think about this?</p>



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11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can you infer about Baby Face Bernie? • Why does Beryl announce she's Casper's new swimming coach? • List some of the difficulties that might make Casper's goal of swimming the channel tricky to achieve. • Identify two elements of the training programme Beryl comes up with for Casper. 	<p>Create an emotion map for Casper. Try to list all the emotions he experiences in this chapter and how they've come about.</p> <p>Create a character profile for Baby Face Bernie. Does his appearance reveal any clues?</p>	<p>P.E. • What knowledge do you need to become a sports coach? Can you list some skills required?</p>
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does Casper think of the statement 'records are meant to be broken'? • Why is Casper convinced Corallium is special? • Why is Granny Ida so reluctant to discuss the past with Casper? • Casper has seen three impossible things in Granny Ida's house. Can you name them? 	<p>Debate the statement 'records are meant to be broken'. Write your points for or against the motion.</p>	<p>SCIENCE/GEOLGY • What is coral and how is it formed? List some ways it is important for marine ecology.</p>
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can you infer from the photographs on the lounge wall? • Is Baby Face Bernie worried about Casper breaking his record? • Why does Agatha think Casper is a threat? • Do you think Agatha is kind? Use the text to support your answer. 	<p>Create a character profile of Agatha. What can you infer about her from the text?</p> <p>Can you predict what Bernie and his mum will do to stop Casper?</p>	



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14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is Casper proud of the excuse he's come up with to explain his unusual breakfast and plans for the day? • What is the reoccurring theme used to decorate homes, shops and other places in Corallium? • Why does Casper need a haircut? • Why does Sheila refuse to cut Casper's hair? • What does 'aerodynamic' mean? 	<p>Write a setting description of Corallium town. Include details that would stand out to tourists.</p>	<p>P.E. • What is a triathlon? Research the training required to complete one. How old is the youngest person on record for completing one?</p> <p>Casper also trains for his swims when he is not in the sea, for instance he sits in the freezer. Create a training playlist for Casper.</p>
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does Beryl insist on proper technique? How does Casper feel about this? • What does 'luminous' mean? • How does Casper feel about Tan? • Casper and Wynn uncover the pattern on the carpet in Ida's beach hut by chance. How does this help Casper get closer to the truth of his past? 	<p>Rewrite this scene from Baby Face Bernie's point-of-view.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Most animals can swim naturally. Research some of the few that cannot.</p> <p>PSHE • Research which jobs you'd need to be a really good swimmer to be able to do.</p>
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What valuable clue does Casper discover when he tries again to get Ida to reveal the secret of their past? • Why is it important Triton is quiet? • What can you infer about Corallium's history from the contents of the locked closet? 	<p>You are to interview Ida Delmare and are required to submit your questions ahead of the interview. What do you think your readers will be interested in?</p>	<p>ART • Recreate one of the paintings depicting Corallium's history that Casper finds. What details will you include?</p>



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17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does Wynn offer as a possible reason for Ida's behaviour? • Why is Dev digging around the castle? • What does Dev think the discovery of the corridor and atrium suggests? • What connection does he make between the grotto and his stay in Corallium so far? 	<p>Write a research proposal for an archaeological dig of a Corallium Castle. Consider all the reasons why the project will be beneficial to Corallium: ecological and conservation reasons, tourism potential and health benefits (there must be something in the water).</p>	<p>SCIENCE/GEOLOGY • List five facts about coral reefs. Why is it important to protect them?</p>
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is Casper distracted during training? • What is an accelerator? • List the reasons why Wynn thinks the curse is active again? • Casper and Wynn think the grotto is important for different reasons. Discuss. 	<p>Write a diary entry about the mishaps Casper experiences at training during the day. How does he feel afterwards? What comforts him and keeps him focused on his goal?</p>	
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify some more events that occur that could prevent Casper from swimming the Channel. • What do Wynn and Casper argue about? • What alerts Casper to the fact that all is not well? • What is it about the shark attack that makes Casper realize his life is in danger? 	<p>Write a newspaper article about how an ancient curse may have inspired the reports of the modern curse surrounding the swimming record. Consider the similarities that make your argument persuasive.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Research five interesting facts about sharks. They are now endangered – what are the biggest threats to their existence? Think about how we can protect them from extinction.</p>



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20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List some events that happen in Corallium after the shark attack. Identify some of the reasons Casper offers for the shark being released to counter Wynn's belief in the curse. Why does Wynn decide they need to visit the library? What do Casper and Wynn identify as something all the swimming accidents have in common? Why do you think Wynn hesitates to read out the article about Ida? 	<p>Put together a swim team of four and think of nicknames for all your members that highlight the attributes and strengths you want in your team.</p>	<p>HISTORY • Research what sporting events were popular sixty years ago in your hometown. Who were the record holders then? Have their records been broken since? Include all interesting details you can find.</p>
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casper is furious and unsettled following their discovery of Ida's past. What does he do to get some answers? Casper finds a new section of the grotto with more murals. What proof does he discover of his connection to the grotto and the people who built it? Did you guess who the silhouette by the shoreline was? 	<p>Make some predictions about what might happen next.</p>	<p>ART • Depict a scene from the grotto using mosaic techniques. Think about the materials you would use.</p> <p>Draw or make a model of the cliff, the grotto and the beach. Think carefully about how they are connected.</p>
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes Ida decide to tell Casper the truth? How does Casper respond to Ida's revelations about their family history, and connection to the grotto and the sea? Following Ida's revelations, do you think Casper understands his father better? 	<p>Write a story that the Delmare family pass down through the generations of how Corallium came to be. How is this different from</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Ida tells Casper they evolved from aquatic people from thousands of years ago as an explanation for their webbed feet. Explore physical</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss why Ida still thinks Casper should abandon his goal of swimming the Channel.• Casper outlines several reasons why he doesn't have an unfair advantage over other swimmers. What do you think? Do you agree with him?• The protest is initially quite chaotic. What changes the tone?• What does Baby Face Bernie say he's done to make sure Casper doesn't swim the channel in an attempt to break his record?• How do his friends support him when he realizes that he's been disqualified in advance of his swim?	<p>the story that the regular townsfolk tell? Create some secret details that only the Children of Corallium would know.</p> <p>Turn this chapter into a playscript. Think about stage directions and how to translate the prose to drama.</p>	<p>traits that are leftovers from evolution and not considered useful in humans (appendix, wisdom teeth, coccyx are some examples).</p> <p>PHSE • Ida explains that the visions Casper has experienced means his sense of intuition is naturally strong. What do you think about this? Do you think intuition can sometimes guide us?</p> <p>DRAMA • Design a set for your playscript. What props would you include to bring your play to life?</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

24

- As they all work together to get Les Moules-Frites into the sea, Ida identifies a new obstacle. What do you think it is?
- How does Casper help his dad?
- How does Beryl ensure Casper doesn't miss his chance to swim the channel while the Delmares make up?
- Why does Dev say Ida is 'history in human form'?
- What does the phrase 'gird your loins' mean?

Write this scene from Casper's dad, Roger's, point-of-view.

P.E. • Research the reasons why a long-distance swimmer will need a support boat. What other sports require such support?
PHSE • The different generations in this story all work together to help Casper achieve his dream. What do you think about this? Can different generations learn from each other?

25

- How do some of the people of Corallium show their support before Casper sets off on his swim?
- How is his vision of coral fingers and sails different to previous visions? Does he find this helpful. Support your answer from the text.
- Why is Bernie happy his record won't be broken?
- Why is Agatha furious about Casper's unofficial swim? Do you think the official record matters?

Make an emotion map for Baby Face Bernie. Pick out some of the words the author uses to describe the effect of Agatha's words on him and link it to your map.

P.E. • Research the records for your favourite sport. Include any interesting details.

26

- Describe the atmosphere aboard Les Moules-Frites. Use examples from the text to support your answer.
- Agatha is quite upset as they chase after Casper and friends. What does Baby Face Bernie realise about the last

Write a diary as Wynn recording the exciting details of the journey. Think about how she'd think

GEOGRAPHY • Draw a map of a possible swim route for Casper to cross the Channel. Mark the various zones along



Chapter**Comprehension Questions****Writing Opportunities****Cross-Curricular Opportunities**

	<p>60 years since his swim?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'It's Irene Ingleby all over again!'</i> Why does Wynn say this? • Why don't Roger and Sophie quite understand the danger Les Moules-Frites is in? 	<p>about this trip in relation to Tan's attempt to cross the channel.</p>	<p>the route such as the Separation Zone and the South West Shipping Lane. Think of how far it is, in terms of miles, average time to complete the route, and what perfect weather conditions should be.</p>
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes Casper notice the tugboat is way behind him? • Why do Bernie and Agatha end up in the sea? • How does Casper prove the curse is not supernatural? 	<p>Write a report as an official observer of the Channel Swimming Syndicate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would you record the kerfuffle that ends with Bernie and Agatha in the sea? • What would be your comment about Casper's swim before he rescues Bernie and Agatha? 	
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernie tells Casper and his friends that he's tried to stay eleven-years old for sixty years. What do you think of this? Was it worth it? • Why does Casper find himself feeling sorry for Baby Face Bernie? 	<p>Add to your character profile of Bernie. Do you think of him differently following the last three chapters?</p>	



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

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- Why does everyone encourage Casper to complete his swim? Discuss.

Write a letter from Ida to the officials at the Channel Swimming Syndicate persuading them to recognise Casper's swim. Include any details you feel make his swim outstanding.

Epilogue

- Casper achieves his dream of swimming the Channel, but he knows he won't set an official record. What do you think about this?

Write a book review including your own thoughts about the story and its themes and why others should read it.

ART • Design a cover for *Son of the Sea*. Think of the details you would definitely include. What colours would you use?

