

Reading Activities for English students (Primary)

Young readers may be introduced to Holocaust narratives through the eyes of fictional characters. The days leading up to Holocaust Memorial Day are a good time to **share** in the reading of a short novel and **discuss** the issues and questions which arise as the story unfolds.

It is important to **tell** students that although the characters they encounter are fictional, the historical events behind the narrative actually took place. HMDT has selected books suitable for primary students and prepared a series of discussion questions and tasks to be used with student reading groups. You will find these in the reading group section of our main website

You could use any of the books in this section but to help your students join in **The Legacy of Hope** we especially recommend *The Mozart Question* and *The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas* which tell of life as Jewish prisoners of the Nazis and could be linked with the case studies on Hugo Gryn or Ben Helfgott.

If you wish to focus on the Denise Affonço case study sharing thoughts on the picture book *A Song For Cambodia* which is based on the experiences of a real child in the killing fields of Cambodia, would be most useful.

If you are encouraging very young children to think about inclusion, you could link the picture book *Susan Laughs* and its positive messages about a Disabled child, with the poem/song for infants which has been specially written to help them understand **The Legacy of Hope**.

If you want older primary students to think about modern inclusion issues then *Refugee Boy* is suitable for upper primary (ages 10-11) as well as lower secondary (11-14)