

# TREASURE HUNTERS

A high-seas adventure series from JAMES PATTERSON

## Thematic connections

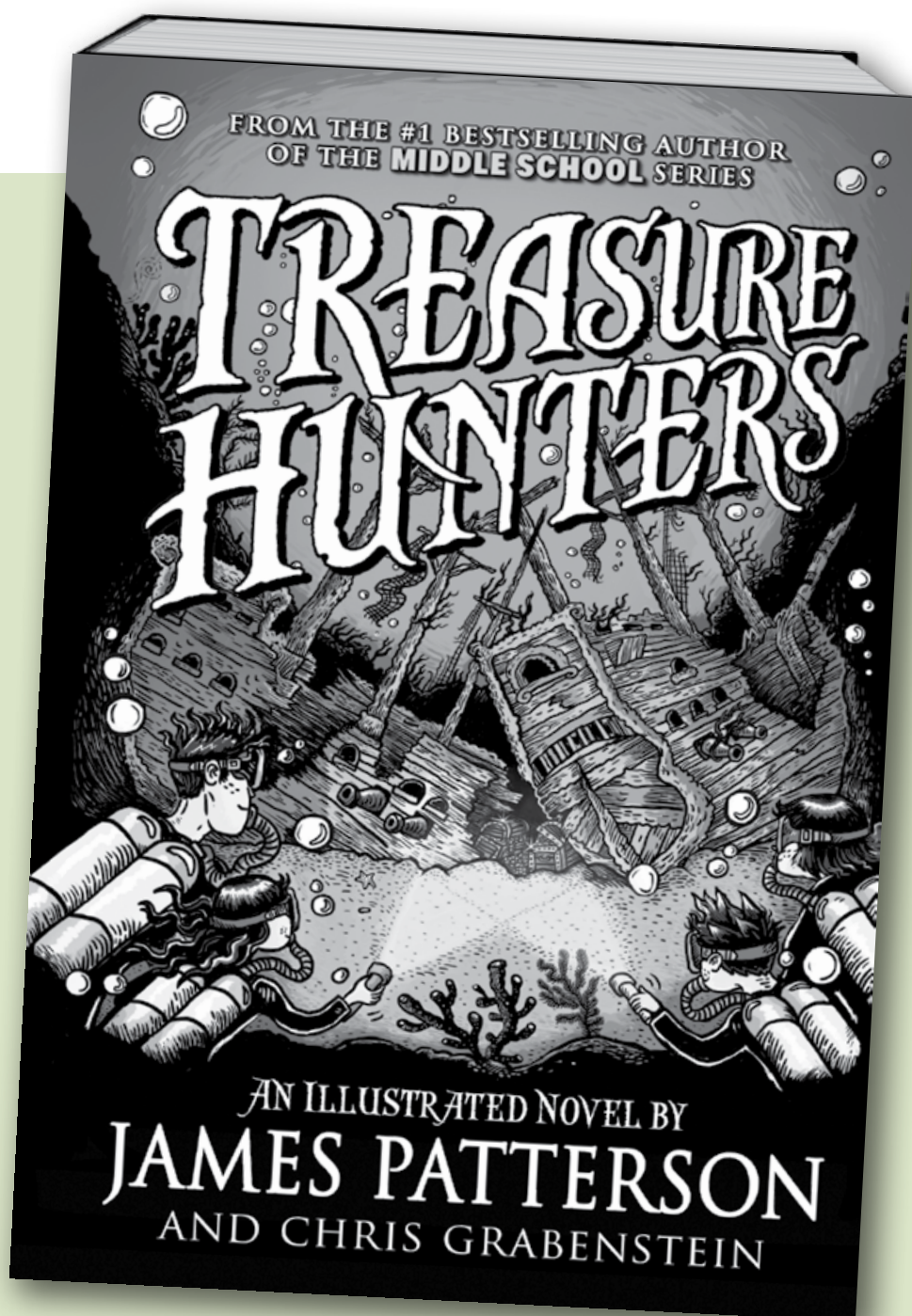
- ❖ Family
- ❖ Courage
- ❖ Betrayal

## Curriculum connections

- ❖ Science
- ❖ Language Arts
- ❖ Writing
- ❖ Art

Grades 3 – 7

Illustrated by  
Juliana Neufeld



# TREASURE HUNTERS

## BEFORE YOU OPEN THE BOOK



Inside *Treasure Hunters* is a reference to the famous children's book *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. Read the book to the class and ask students what characteristics the animals possess that could be transferred to children. In the book, which animal activities could also be activities for children? Have students predict how the book *Where the Wild Things Are* will connect to the characters and situations in *Treasure Hunters*.



## CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

### Science

In small groups, ask students to research the story of one of many famous shipwrecks caused by weather conditions. Ask students to develop a short digital presentation to convey the information they find including: the name of the ship, year of the shipwreck, and specific weather conditions that led to the shipwreck. Students should also analyze whether or not the shipwreck was avoidable based on the technology available at the time. Have students share their digital presentations with the class.

### English / Language Arts

Each of the Kidd siblings has a unique gift to offer the group as they hunt for the clues that will lead them to the treasure their father was seeking. Ask students to select one of the siblings and to write a character analysis of him or her based on the character's appearance, actions, words, thoughts, and motivations, as well as other characters' reactions to him or her. Then have students assume the persona of the character and join with other students portraying each of the other characters to practice and perform a scene from the book. Invite other classes to view the scenes.

### Writing

Divide students into small groups and ask each group to create and write a newspaper. Each student can choose one of the following to include: weather report, advice column, front page story, missing persons notice, classified ads, or others. Students should give their newspaper an appropriate name and use the characters and events in the book to create the articles they use in their newspaper. Post newspapers in the classroom.

### Art

Many of the scenes in the books are illustrated. Ask students to find a scene to illustrate and then, using a variety of mediums, have students draw an illustration. Students should include a short excerpt from the book from the selected scene to accompany their artwork. Then create a classroom art gallery of the artwork. Have students participate in a gallery walk to appreciate each student's artistic interpretation.







## THEMATIC CONNECTIONS

### Family

The Kidd family works well together—especially considering they live in confined quarters on a small boat. How do the siblings convey love, respect, and honor to one another? In what ways do they support and encourage one another? How did their parents influence their children’s character?

### Courage

Each of the siblings and both parents possess tremendous courage. How does each of them display courage? What role does courage play in helping the Kidds find the treasure their father was seeking? Why were the Kidds willing to risk their lives to follow their father’s wishes?

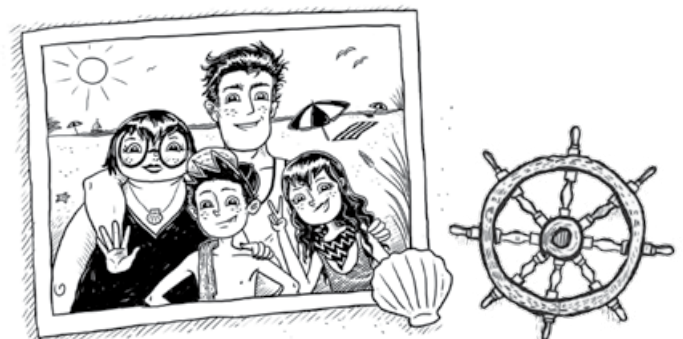
### Betrayal

The shifty characters the Kidds encounter constantly betray them. Even their “Uncle” Tommy turns his back on them and their parents. How do the Kidds retaliate? In what ways do they suffer as a result of the betrayals? How do the betrayals by others make the Kidds more dependent on one another?



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What secrets are revealed after Mr. Kidd is lost at sea? Why does each sibling know a different secret?
2. In what ways do the Kidd children honor their father’s wishes?
3. How do the Kidds react when they learn their parents work for the CIA? Why don’t they believe their father is a spy?
4. How is the boat rigged that makes it conducive for treasure hunting? What does “the room” reveal? How do the Kidds use their room to their advantage?
5. What prompts the Kidds to look for their college fund? What treasure do they find?
6. Why are the siblings suspicious of their Uncle Tommy? What do they discover that confirms their suspicions?
7. What are the weaknesses and strengths of the Kidd siblings? How do their weaknesses and strengths make them a complete team?
8. How does the Kidds’ homeschooling help them solve the clues their father has left? What specific history and culture facts help them discover what they are looking for?
9. How does Nathan Collier attempt to destroy the Kidds, their boat, and their business? In what ways is he successful?
10. What do Louie and his twin brother Dr. Lewis have in common? How do they help the Kidds? How do they make it difficult for the Kidds to attain their goal?



# TREASURE HUNTERS

## about the book



### TREASURE HUNTERS

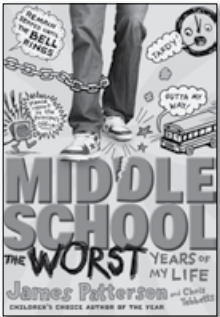
By James Patterson

978-0-316-20756-0

The Kidds have grown up diving down to shipwrecks and traveling the world as part of their family treasure hunting business. But after their mother is kidnapped and their father disappears in an enormous storm, the kids are suddenly thrust into the most exciting treasure hunt of their lives!

They'll have to work together to defeat dangerous pirates, keep their untrustworthy uncle at bay, and dodge the hot pursuit of an evil treasure hunting rival, all while following cryptic clues to unravel the mystery of what really happened to their parents—and find out if they're still alive.

## also by James Patterson



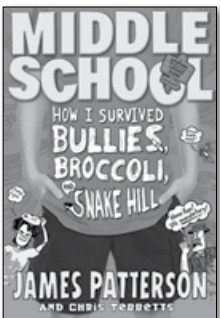
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978-0-316-10169-1 PB



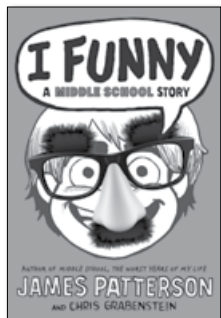
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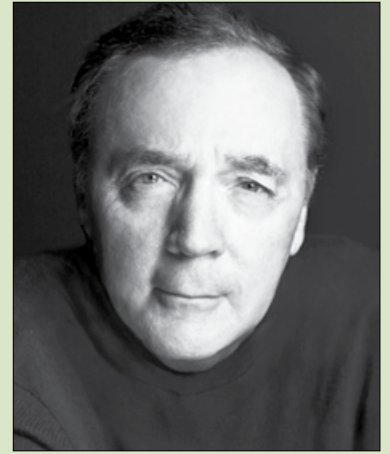
978-0-316-20693-8 HC



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY  
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

TreasureHuntersBooks.com  
Educator's Guide prepared by Susan Geye.

## about the author



**JAMES PATTERSON** was selected by readers across America as the Children's Choice Book Awards Author of the Year in 2010.

He is the international bestselling author of the highly praised Middle School books, *I Funny*, *Confessions of a Murder Suspect*, and the Maximum Ride, Witch & Wizard, Daniel X, and Alex Cross series. His books have sold over 275 million copies worldwide, making him one of the bestselling authors of all time.

**CHRIS GRABENSTEIN** is a *New York Times* bestselling author who has also collaborated with James Patterson on the *I Funny* series and *Daniel X: Armageddon*.

**JULIANA NEUFELD** is an award winning illustrator whose drawings can be found in books, on album covers, and in nooks and crannies throughout the internet.