

# COOP KNOWS THE SCOOP

BY TARYN SOUDERS  
DISCUSSION GUIDE



## THE WHOLE TOWN IS TALKING AND ONLY COOP CAN FIND THE TRUTH.

Windy Bottom, Georgia, is usually a peaceful place. Coop helps his mom at her café and bookstore, hangs out with his grandpa, and bikes around with his friends Justice and Liberty. The town is full of all kinds of interesting people, but no one has ever caused a problem. Until now.

When the link to a cold case mystery is discovered beneath the playground, everyone is eager to solve it. But somehow, Gramps is taking all the blame. It seems like there are a lot of secrets that were buried in their small town after all...

Will Coop and his friends get to the bottom of the mystery and clear Gramps's name before it's too late?

***"Coop Knows the Scoop is a gem of mystery with everything you're looking for in a whodunit: from the pitch-perfect setting to the heartwarming hero, and a plot that will keep you guessing until the end."***

**—JAMES PONTI, Edgar Award—winning author**



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**TARYN SOUDERS** graduated from the University of North Texas with a specialization in mathematics. She's the award-winning author of *Whole-y Cow! Fractions Are Fun*, *Dead Possums Are Fair Game*, and *How to (Almost) Ruin Your Summer*. She lives in Sorrento, Florida with her family. Visit her at [tarynsouders.com](http://tarynsouders.com)



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1. How did Coop's dad die, and how does that change the way Coop feels about his place in his family?
2. Why do you think Coop was nervous about Mama being in a relationship with Tick? What makes you nervous about new relationships?
3. Liberty and Justice were Coop's best friends. What characteristics did they have that you admire or look for in a friend?
4. Gramps only had two rules. What were they, and why do you think he felt so strongly about them?
5. Beau had a reputation for being a bully. Would you call him that? Why do you think he acted the way he did? Do you think he's justified for acting that way?
6. Coop thought adults were forcing him and Beau to hang out so they'd learn to get along. Do you think he's right? How would you feel if you were forced to spend time with someone you didn't like?
7. What did Gramps's wife do for a hobby, and why was that important?
8. What does forgiveness mean?
9. To put someone on a pedestal means to admire or love someone so much that you believe they have no faults, like how Coop did with Gramps. Have you ever put someone on a pedestal and they've "fallen off"? How did you feel? Do you think it's fair or right to put people on pedestals? Why or why not?
10. Have you ever disappointed someone? And has someone you admire ever disappointed you? Explain.
11. What was Miss Ruth famous for making, and why was that important?
12. How did the relationship change between Beau and Coop? Do you think they'll become good friends in the future? Why or why not?
13. What clues did the author give to help Coop figure out who the killer was? Who did you think the killer was?
14. Who was your favorite character and why?
15. How did Coop and his friends work together to solve the mystery? Could Coop have solved it on his own? Why or why not?