



## THE SKULL

BY JON KLASSEN

### READING QUESTIONS

- The skull is a folktale and folktales often have an element of surprise. What was the element of surprise, for you, in The Skull?
- How does the author build suspense in this book? Why is the book divided into Parts with titles like: The Secret?
- Why do you think the author, Jon Klassen made the two main characters a young girl and a skull? The young girl is a more traditional character but the skull is not. In your opinion, what is the backstory of these characters? The author gives us a few hints in the book, but what do you think happened in their past lives?
- Folktales and fairytales often contain a message that the author is trying to get the reader to believe or think about. What is the author's message in this story?
- One of the themes in this book is friendship. How do you know that the skull and the Otilla are friends? Can you trace their acts of friendship from the beginning of the book until the end of the book? What do Otilla and the Skull both need?
- The book ends with Otilla asking the skull if he wants her to stay and he says that he does. What do you think will happen next?

