

## **From the Author's Desk:**

*Hello Parents and Teachers! Thank you for sharing "The Secret of Robber's Cave" with your readers. It's the first in the Cabin Creek Mystery series. I hope this discussion guide will help them reflect on the story and enjoy it on a deeper level. I've added a recipe, a few random activities, and personal tidbits that might be fun for them.*

*My very best,  
Kristi*

## **Cabin Creek #1: The Secret of Robber's Cave:**

### **About this book:**

Lost Island was off limits--until now. Jeff and David are canoeing to the deserted island to search for clues, and for hidden treasure. Town legend tells of a robber and a secret cave, but the brothers have to piece together the truth. With the help of their cousin, Claire, they'll get to the bottom of the mystery, no matter what they have to dig up!

Illustrated by Cody Rutty. For ages 8-12.  
ISBN 9781505269208

### **Discussion ideas:**

#### **<> Part I:** [Chapter 1-12]

1. If you could build a fort on an island, what would you call it?
2. Name five things you would take on a walk in the woods to keep you safe.
3. What are some practical ways to wrap a present without buying gift paper?

#### **<> Part II:** [Chapter 13-23]

1. Describe three wise things to consider before entering a cave.
2. What would you do if a friend and you got lost?
3. Tell about something you could celebrate today.

### **Activity suggestions:**

#### **<> Write** - These can be a brief paragraph or several pages:

1. "If I lived in a log cabin on a lake, I would ..."
2. Tell about your favorite vacation.
3. Describe something spooky you've experienced.

#### **<> Draw**

1. A map of Lost Island
2. A view from the Lookout Tower
3. A creature you might find in a cave

<> **Make**

1. Diorama of Lost Island
2. A box to hold a treasure

<> **Cook**

**David's Birthday Dinner** -- I love easy things to make!

Ingredients:

Tortillas: flour is easier to roll than corn

Bananas, sliced thin

Crunchy peanut butter

Blueberries

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Spread peanut butter on each tortilla, lightly; don't overdo or it'll make a squishy mess. Add thin layer of banana slices, then roll up each tortilla like a sleeping bag. Serve with bowl of blueberries and a pitcher of water.

<> **Read** - Cabin Creek Mysteries # 2: The Clue at the Bottom of the Lake  
ISBN 9781505317688

**Behind the scenes of this story:**

The Cabin Creek Mysteries are inspired by stories I told my boys where they were little and didn't want to go to bed. All I needed to say was, "Hey, you guys wanna hear a Jeff and David story?" and *zooom*, they dashed under the covers. The characters are modeled after them and their redheaded cousin.

The cave on Lost Island comes from my childhood adventures at Disneyland, on Tom Sawyer's Island. My siblings and I loved scaring each other as we hid and explored the twisty cave.

**A secret about the author:**

Dr. Bridger telling Jeff he's her favorite brown-eyed son and telling David that he's her favorite blue-eyed son is what I say to my boys when they ask who I love the most.

**Contact:** I would love to hear about your discussion. Just click the Contact button on my website, [kristianagregory.com](http://kristianagregory.com), and I'll answer you!