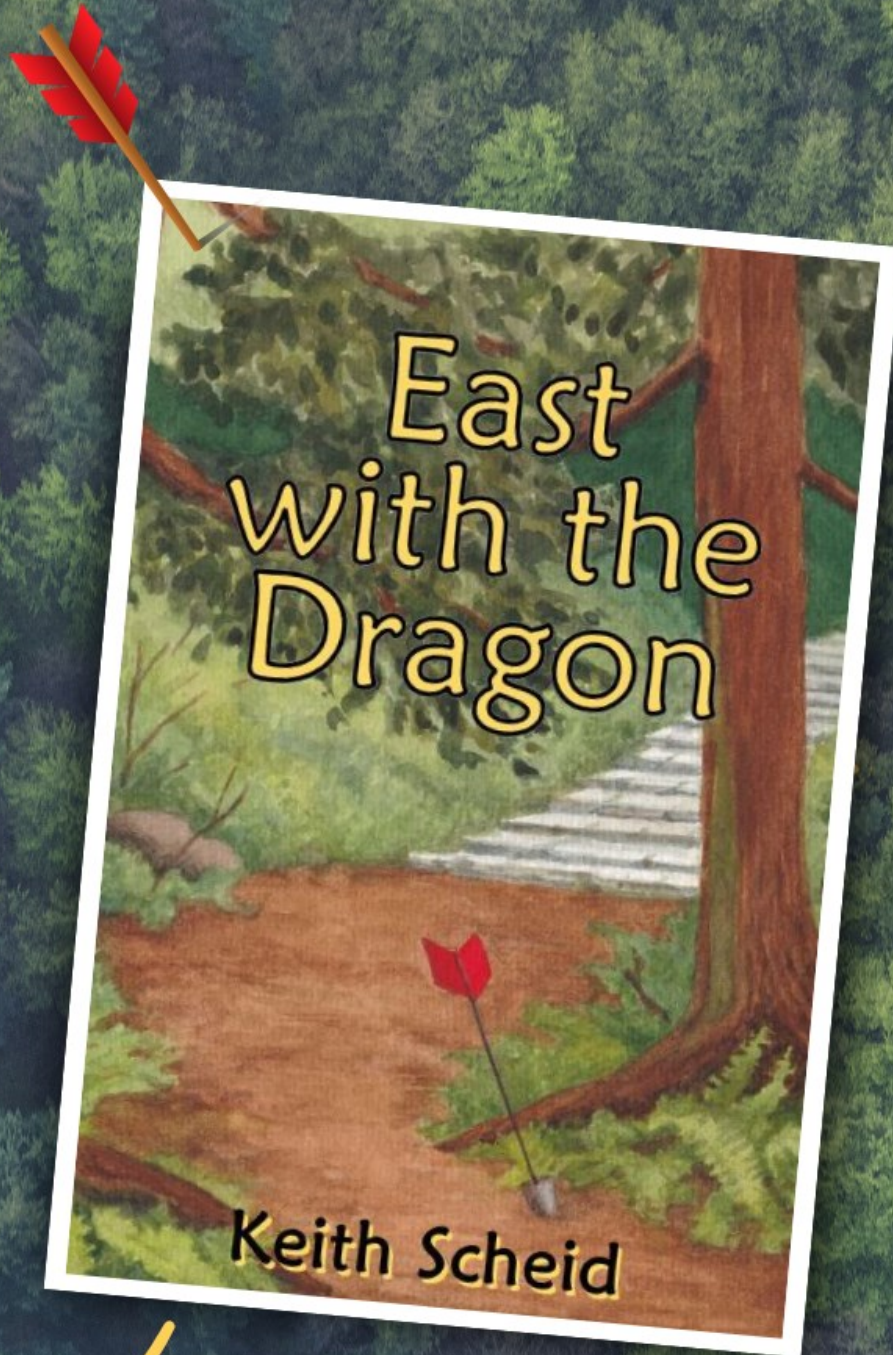


Reading Guide For:



rating



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Before You Read:

- What do you think the title "*East with the Dragon*" means?
- Have you ever moved to a new place? How did that feel? How did you make it feel like home?
- Learn to pronounce the author, Keith Scheid's, name. The phonetic spelling KĒTH SHĪD is pronounced as "keeth shide":
 - ♦ KĒTH: The "Ē" represents a long "ee" sound, like in the word *key*
 - ♦ SHĪD: The "ī" represents a long "i" sound, like in the word *side*. The "sh" sound is the same as in the word *she*

Characters in the Book and How They Might Relate To You:

- Which character in "East with the Dragon" do you think you could be best friends with? Why?
- Name two things each that you like about Chris and Deidre.
- Late in the book, Chris and Deidre are described as "A brave pair, to be sure." How did they show their bravery?
- Do you have a favorite from Chris's neighbors—the exiles?
- Have you ever had unique neighbors that you became friends with? What attracted you to being their friend?
- Do you know anyone that you would describe as 'magical'? Who and why?
- The Knight of the Crows is a dark and angry character. Do you think he was always like that?
- How many Harringtons are there? Can you name all of them?
- How did your opinion of the Harringtons change over time?
- There is a turning point late in the book where Chris told Don Harrington, "I'll do what I can." What was he promising to do? Did he fulfill that promise?
- There's some bullying in the book:
 - ♦ If someone was being a bully to you, how would you want them to be stopped?
 - ♦ How does it make you feel when you see someone being bullied? How can you help them?
- Who is the biggest bully in the book?

Real, Imaginary, and Magic:

- If you could travel to a place in the book, which one would you choose? Why?
- What in the story excited you most while reading the book?
- The setting for the book is very important. What is one interesting fact you learned about the culture, history, or geography in the book?
- The hill in this book is based on a real hill in Bellingham, Washington called [Sehome Hill Arboretum](#). Can you think of a place you've been to or heard about that is similar?
- Do you know anyone that lives in Washington state or Kansas? Who?
- Have you been to either state? Which cities or towns?
- What is the coolest magical item mentioned in the story? Why?
- Which of the stone animals in the forest would you most like to see? Which was easiest to imagine?
- If you could have a magical item in your life, what would you want it to be?
- If you were going to dress up in a costume as a character from "*East with the Dragon*" for a theme party or Halloween—which of the characters in the book would you go as?
- Would you like to see this book made into a movie?
- If this book was made into a movie, what actors should play these characters? Is there a character you'd like to play?
- Tell us something you learned about the author.
- What do you imagine could be the next adventure for Chris and Deidre?

Problem Solving:

- What were the three biggest problems that needed to be solved in the book?
- Who solved each of those problems? How?

Give an example of a time in the book where teamwork worked best to tackle an issue.

Extension Activities:

DRAWING BY HAND OR USING AN APP:

- Draw a picture of the book's Dragon as you imagine it at the end of the story.
- Now create your own dragon. How would it look differently? And what powers would it have? Would it be a boy or a girl?
- Draw The Wizard's Watch: It is a grand and magical building. Would you want to live there? Draw a picture of how you imagine it looks on the outside.
- Draw Deidre's Smuggler's camp
- Design a New Book Cover: Create a new cover for "East with the Dragon" that would make other kids your age want to read it.
- Draw Chris's family dog, Charlemagne. What was his nickname? What kind of dog do you think he is?

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- **Create a Puzzle:** Create a simple crossword or word find puzzle using names, places, and magical items from the book.
- **The Dragon's Diet:** If the Dragon from the story was real, what do you think it would eat? Create a menu for it!
- **Mapping the Journey:** Using the book's map, highlight the paths the book's characters use on their journey. Use different colors to mark good and dangerous spots.
- **Design Your Own Artifact:** There was an important artifact in the book that truly impacted the ending. Design your own magical object using materials you gather on your own. Then write its legend story about its origin and powers. Share it with the others in your reading group as if you're teaching them about this object.
- **Character Insights:** Write what you think the Dragon or Phoenix thought of Chris and Deidre
- **Hero's Toolkit:** create a hero's toolkit with pictures you draw or find online or in magazines. And write a list of the items and why each is needed.

EXPLORING NEW WORDS:

Artifact

Nemesis

Resilience

Perseverance

Festive

Destiny

Council

Confident

Implications

Crevice

Boisterous

Transformation