

PICTURE STORY

April 2025

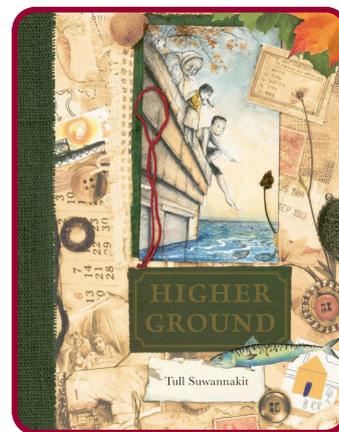
HIGHER GROUND

By Tull Suwannakit

Publisher: New Frontier Publishing

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\$32.99



BLURB

After a great flood, a grandmother, her two grandchildren and their pet rabbit must learn to survive living on their rooftop garden, relying on scarce resources and limited space. Days turn into weeks, and weeks into months, but through life lessons and words of wisdom, hope emerges.

Higher Ground is an inspiring coming-of-age tale of resilience, courage and spirit that illuminates how life can be beautiful even in the darkest of times.

NOTES

Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

Sustainability; Adversity; Strength; Resilience; Family; Traditions.

Discussion Questions and Activities:

- When you look at the first few pages of the story, where there are no words, do you get a sense of what is to come?
- Why did the family not evacuate like everyone else? How were the children and their Grandma feeling at this time?
- When the family were trapped, Grandma said 'Never lose hope' and 'Life can be meaningful even in the darkest of days'. Discuss this as a wider concept, and how it can be applied to other situations in our lives.
- What were some of the things that Grandma taught the children?
- Are there any specific life skills that you have been taught by a grandparent or older relative? If so, how do you think they will be important to you in the future?
- As the story progresses, the family face many challenges, and they experience feelings of sadness and fear, amongst many other feelings. What is the overriding feeling that you have whilst reading the story? What is the final message that you will take away at the end?

Sustainability Activities:

- One of the key themes of the book is sustainability. Like the characters in the story, use leftover vegetables and regrow them. You can use bok choy, carrots, lettuce and many other leafy greens using the methods in the notebook.
- Brainstorm other ways of reusing objects and turning them into useful items.

Activity: Draw/Design your own cabin

- The characters in the story create their own cosy cabin from the shed. Why not try designing your own ideal cabin in the event of an apocalypse? Use the cabin in the story as a starting point.

Activity: Fill Your Bag

- Make a list of useful items that you can fill your bag with in the event of an apocalypse. Think carefully, you can only have 20 items!
- Complete the Word Search that is attached.

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FUN WORDSEARCH ACTIVITY

Can you find all the words in the *Higher Ground* wordsearch?

Name:

Class:

Date:

word search

HIGHER GROUND

Y T I G O S R E W E L L I Y
T E F R Y C A O O U L A T M
L N A A L U S T O R M I N K
B I D N R I I C S F L O O D
T D N D S B F R U I T S H R
N E A D B E T E B E H O Y S
T G R A N D M A B B S T P S
L E R U T A N O S D N A R G
X D T G F I O Q I E O E R H
A T E H A K N O D H S L N I
D C I T Y E F R H S A A W J
P Y S E L B A T E G E V E N
G U S R Z G N R M G S H R H
S U O O O F O S I T D I A P



CITY
DAYS
FLOOD
FRUITS
GARDEN
GRANDDAUGHTER
GRANDMA

GRANDSON
LAND
LIFE
NATURE
NOTEBOOK
RABBIT
RAFT

ROOFTOP
SEASONS
SHED
STORM
SUSTAINABILITY
VEGETABLES