

Highway Cats
By Janet Taylor Lisle
Book Discussion Guide

This is the first book we've read where the main characters are animals. Did you like that?

What did you think of the format of the story? (play script, text, newspaper articles) Did this change your reading experience in any way?

What was your first impression of the highway cats?

How does the author help you keep the highway cats straight? Do the cats have distinct personalities like people?

Why are the highway cats so mean to each other?

What does Mayor Blunt want to do with Potter's Woods? Why does he want to do it? Does he consider the consequences of his actions? Why or why not?

How do things in Potter's Woods change after the kittens arrive? What do the highway cats think of them?

Why does Shredder decide to look after the kittens? How do the kittens cause Shredder to change over the course of the story?

Do you think the kittens are special? Magical? Do you think there is a reason they've come to Potter's Woods?

Why is Khalia Koo always covered in garbage? What is she trying to hide and why? How does she change over the course of the story?

How does the story make you think about preserving nature and going "green"? What might the message of *Highway Cats* be?

How are Khalia Koo and the others able to save Potter's Woods?

What do you think happened to the kittens at the end of the story?

Why did the kittens have to leave Potter's Woods at the end of the story? Could they have stayed? How would that change the story?

The last pages of the story give us some clues as to what will in the future. What do you think might occur?

Do you think Mayor Blunt and his Chief of Staff understood what happened out at Potter's Woods? Do you think they will change their thinking about the importance of nature and the animals they might be disturbing with their construction plans?

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