

STEWART FOSTER



The

PERFECT PARENT PROJECT

WANTED
Two Adults
(or one)



prepared to look
after an
11-year-old boy
←

NOTES FOR AGES 8+ KS2



SIMON &
SCHUSTER

THINKING ABOUT FAMILY AND HOME

Explore Themes of : Identity ✓ Family ✓ Home ✓ Friendship ✓
Celebrating Difference ✓ Being Kind ✓

Subject Checklist : Literacy ✓ PSHE ✓ Citizenship ✓ Art, Design & Technology ✓

The activities included here are suitable for home learning or in the classroom.

They have been created to prompt discussions around the themes of family, home and friendship, encouraging children to understand their own identities and to celebrate others.

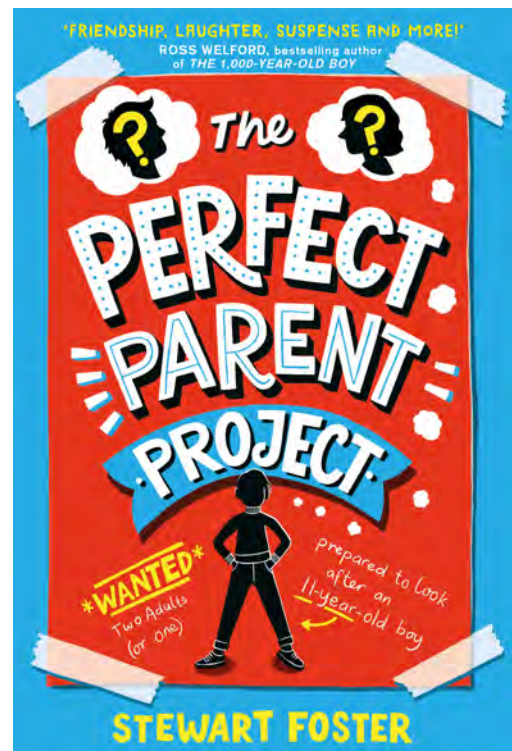
INTRODUCING THE BOOK:

BOOK COVER PROMPTS:

- What do you expect the book to be about? Why?
- What is catchy about the book's title?
- What else do you like about the cover?
- What other elements can you see on the cover that give you clues about the characters, story and themes?
- What does the word 'perfect' mean? Do you think 'perfect' is a good thing?
- Do perfect people or parents exist?

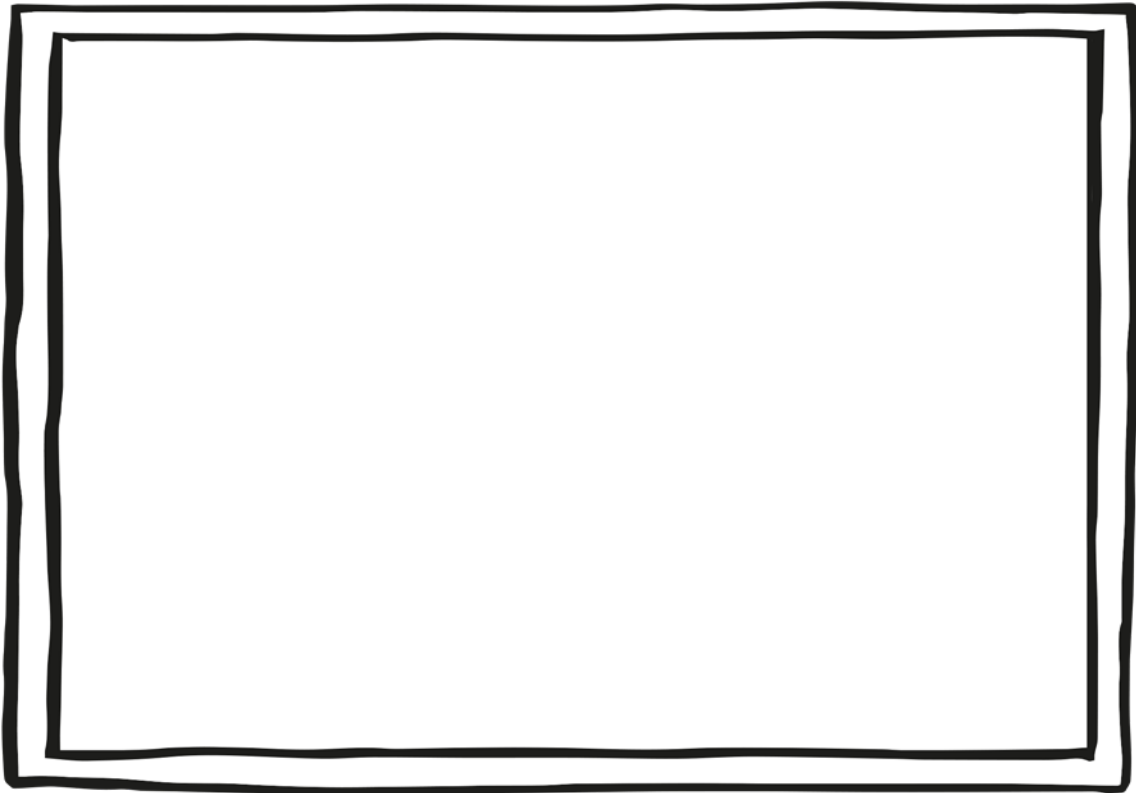
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between a house and a home? Where is home for Sam?
2. What do we know about Sam's family?
How many different types of family can you think of?
3. What qualities make a good friend? Who is Sam's best friend and why?
4. Why is it important to be kind to one another?
5. Can you give some examples of how you can show kindness to your friends and family?



ACTIVITY 1: MY FAMILY

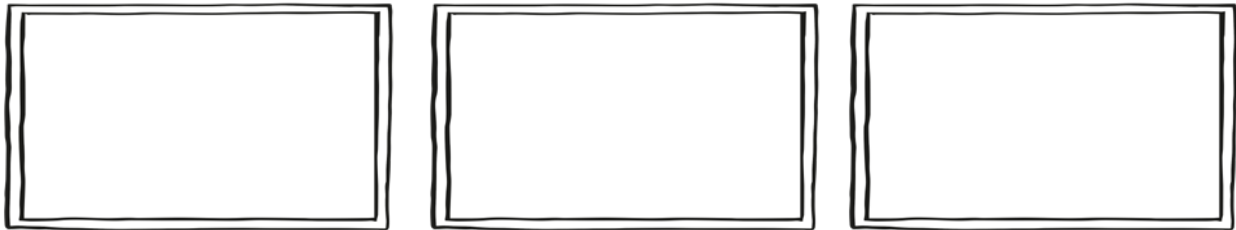
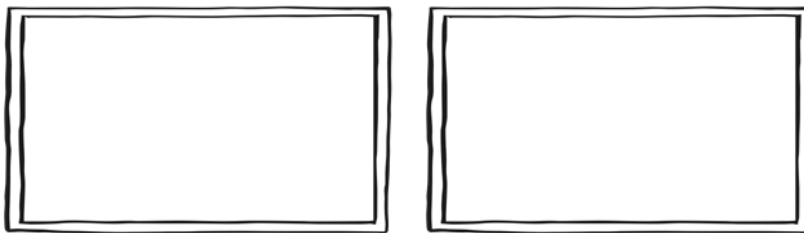
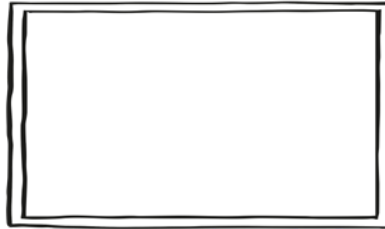
'And I can't stop looking at the photos of me and Reilly. Because I love them. And that's when I go to my room. That's when I put my first picture on my bedroom wall.' (page 345)



- Think about what the word 'family' means to you and who makes up your family. Write the word in capital letters and decorate it with your ideas. Remember: families come in all different shapes and sizes and can include people who aren't blood relations. You might even think of friends and pets as part of your family!
- Note down the name of one family member who is particularly important to you and at least three qualities they have that make them special.
- Then, draw a picture of you with this family member. Perhaps you are doing something you like to do together? Maybe your picture shows something that you have in common? Put your picture up at home just like Sam does!

ACTIVITY 2: BUILDING BLOCKS OF HOME

'And maybe perfect parents don't exist. Maybe parents are like everyone else...' (page 337-338)



- It's important to remember that there is no such thing as a perfect parent or home. As with families, each person's home can be very different! Together, discuss why it is important to respect and celebrate what makes us different. How can we do this?
- Then, take a moment to think what the word 'home' means to you. It could be where you live for most or just some of the time. It might be a place in nature or somewhere else that is significant to you.
- In each of the blocks above, note down one word or idea to describe your home and the feelings, sounds and smells you associate with it. As a class, discuss some of the ideas you have come up with.