

## **The Adventure is Now** by Jess Redman

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A fun-filled, action-packed middle grade novel about a boy who learns about protecting the environment, finding real friends, and living in the now while spending the summer on a remote island.

Sometimes it's hard to be Milton P. Greene. He says all the wrong things, his family is falling apart, and everyone at school avoids him because of the very embarrassing Bird Brain Incident. But when Milton plays his video game Isle of Wild, he becomes someone else—Sea Hawk, the brave and brilliant naturalist explorer who conquers danger at every turn.

Then Milton's parents ship him off to the remote Lone Island for the summer, where his uncle Evan is an environmentalist researcher. The island is chock-full of spectacular species, and Milton realizes this is his chance to become the brave and brilliant naturalist he's always wanted to be—and even meet some fellow explorers!

But as it turns out, the future of the Lone Island is in some pretty serious peril, and the only thing that can save it is a field guide full of cryptic clues. If Milton and his unexpected new friends are going to protect the island, they'll have to trust each other, discover new truths, and embark on a wild and wondrous adventure all their own.

**Discussion, revision & competition-like questions for this book are below.**

**Reading Rivalry Is Not a test!**

Note the Reading Rivalry questions are tools used to discuss the book(s) and topics the students read.

**The intent of RR is to foster a love of reading, introduce the students to books they may not otherwise choose, provide opportunities to work as a team and have fun!**

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- 1. Who wrote the book *The Adventure is Now*?**  
Jess Redman.
- 2. What is the video game called?**  
Isle of Wild.
- 3. What character does Milton play when he plays his Isle of Wild video game?**  
Sea Hawk.
- 4. What magnificent thing did Milton buy at the outdoor store before leaving to go to The Lone Island?**  
A straw hat with a peacock feather in it.
- 5. What is the "bird brain incident"?**  
Milton was bullied and lost his only friend(s).
- 6. Why did Milton go to the island to stay with his uncle?**  
For the parents to sort out their divorce.
- 7. What is Milton's uncle's name?**  
Evan.
- 8. What is the island called that Milton went to?**  
Lone island.
- 9. Who was the first person to live on the Lone Island?**  
Dr. Paradis.
- 10. What did Milton think his uncle's snoring resembled?**  
It was like a hyena laugh mixed with a walrus grunt mixed with a kangaroo cough
- 11. What did Gabe and Rafi say their parents' study?**  
They are entomologists, they study bugs. They know about all kinds of insects.
- 12. What was in the bag they found at the Yes No Maybe tree?**  
Bones.
- 13. Who was Milton's friend?**  
Fig.
- 14. What was Fig's dad's hobby?**  
Art.

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**15. Why was the question of the ownership of the island in the courts?**

Dr. Paradis did not have any living family, and they believed she did not make a will. When she died the island ended up in the courts, which was complicated, and people tried to claim it and buy it.

**16. For what was Evan petitioning?**

To have the island designated as a protected wildlife refuge.

**17. What was Milton trying to save the island from?**

Developers were trying to buy it. The Culebra Company.

**18. How do you get through the vines?**

Tell them a truth.

**19. When the ground around the vine collapsed, who fell in the hole?**

Gabe.

**20. How did Milton escape the trap?**

He crouched down in the trap, found the little dip where the trap met the stem, and pressed with all his might. The trap opened.

**21. How did they save the island?**

By finding Dr. Paradis' guide, samples, treasure and her Last Will and Testament in which she left the Island to those who found the document.

### **Discussion questions**

1. What is your favorite thing about the book?
2. Why do you think it is important to designate areas for wildlife?
3. What did you discover on an adventure you went on?