

The Cay Cool Tool

Being Alone Activity

Purpose: To help students empathize with Timothy and Phillip's characters in the novel and by extension understand that feeling alone/lonely, sometimes even in the midst of a crowd, is a universal experience.

Prompt: Have you ever been alone? Or, do you know or have you observed someone being alone? Did you, or the other person, feel isolated or lonely or vulnerable (insecure, defenseless, unsafe, or threatened/frightened)? And, have you ever felt alone in the midst of a crowd? In your journal, make a brief list in response to these questions, with examples. Keep your notes and ideas for use in the activity.

Activity: Next, divide your class into Phillips and Timothy's. Ask them to take a few minutes to write down their answers to the question below. Have them share out what they felt before, during, and after the storm. Encourage them to use the notes from their personal experiences of isolation or vulnerability to channel Phillip/Timothy's experiences.

How did, I, Phillip feel about being alone before, during, and after the storm?

How did, I, Timothy feel about being alone before, during, and after the storm?

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