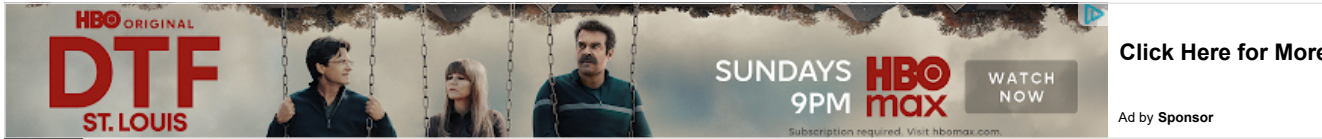


# Whale Talk

by [Chris Crutcher](#)



Menu



- Menu
- [Teaching Guide](#)
  - [Main Menu](#)
  - [Ideas for Reports and Papers](#)
  - [Topics for Discussion](#)

## Ideas for Reports and Papers

1. Interview students to explore the significant symbols of achievement at your high school. How do these honors influence the status of those who receive them? Are these achievements equally accessible to both females and males?
2. T. J.'s father mentions whale communication. Investigate this topic and compose a brief report. How does whale communication differ from that of other animals?
3. Read another novel by Crutcher and compare its themes with those in the first book.
4. Design an original poster that represents the major social issues highlighted in *Whale Talk*. Be ready to explain the elements of your poster.
5. Collaborate with a partner to select a chapter from *Whale Talk* and adapt it into a screenplay. You may include notes on set design or casting.
6. Some adults wish to ban Chris Crutcher's books due to their sensitive topics and use of profanity. Write an editorial either defending Crutcher's work or supporting its removal from school libraries. Ensure your argument is well structured and includes clear reasons. Provide evidence to support your stance.
7. The story concludes with an unexpected tragic ending. Write the following chapter in T. J.'s life. How will he handle his father's passing? What will unfold between T. J. and his newly found half-brother?
8. Georgia is a child psychologist who aids T. J. in his youth and later assists Heidi in overcoming abuse. Research this profession. What training does it require? What does the job entail? What techniques are commonly used in child counseling?
9. Write an original song or poem inspired by *Whale Talk* or focusing on the life of one of its characters.

