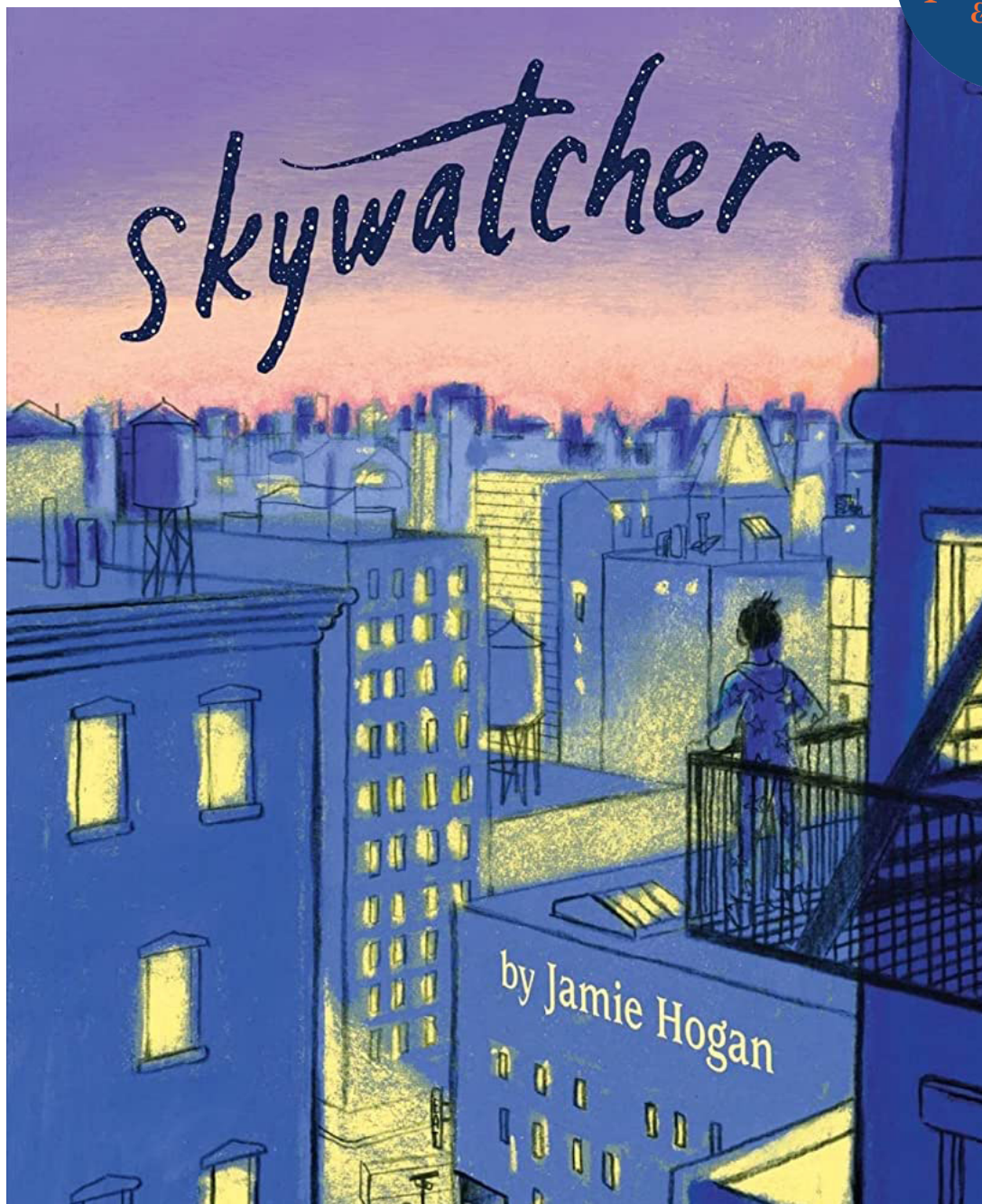


# EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!



## HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact Alison Johnson at IRW, 207-460-6828 or [ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org](mailto:ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org).

# EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Getting Started: **BEFORE** reading the book!

Interested in a guided session with a trained facilitator in the Visual Thinking Strategies process?

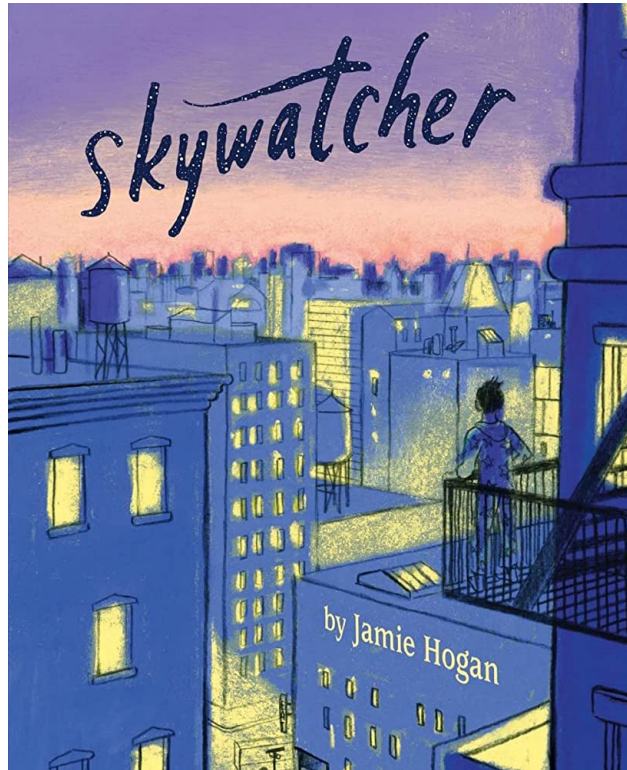


Please contact  
Alison Johnson at IRW:  
207-460-6828 or [email](#).

What is Visual  
Thinking Strategies?



Watch this [video](#) to  
learn more about VTS.



Use the Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) questions below to orient readers, and to help guide a group discussion. Begin by taking a quiet moment to look closely at the book jacket, allowing time for observation and contemplation of the images.

If virtual, ask your students to summarize (or you paraphrase if synchronous) their ideas in short notes in a Google Doc or other format (Padlet, etc.) Build on the group ideas and communal knowledge during your discussion.

- *What is going on in this picture?*
- *What do you see that makes you say that? (provide evidence)*
- *What more can we find?*

## STANDARDS Covered throughout this Explore More Book Guide:

*SL.1. Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.*

*SL.2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.*

*SL.3. Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.*

*R.4. Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts.*

*R.5. Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text.*

*R.6. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.*

*R.8. Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole.*

*R.9. Assess how perspective or purpose shapes the content and style of various texts.*

*R.10. Evaluate the argument and specific claims in various texts.*

Earth and Space Sciences

# EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE



## MEET JAMIE!

Jamie Hogan is an award-winning illustrator and the recent author of *Skywatcher*. She taught at Maine College of Art from 2003 to 2018. Her first children's book, *Rickshaw Girl* by Mitali Perkins, made the New York Public Library's list of Top 100 Books of the last 100 Years. She lives on an island in Maine with her husband and daughter.

Learn more about Jamie [HERE](#).

## LET'S TALK! Discussion Questions

1. Tamen, the little boy in the story, is captivated by the character in his comic book, *Skywatcher*. Have you ever been inspired to learn more about a subject from reading a book? What was the book and how did it hook you?

A **narrative hook (or hook)** is a line in the opening of a story that "hooks" the reader's attention with mystery, suspense, or excitement, so that he or she will keep on reading.

2. Tamen's mom says "the city outshines them" when he asks her where the stars are. What do you think it means to be outshined? Can this mean something other than light?

3. Tamen sees a few nocturnal animals while out camping with his mom. Can you name them and think of any other animals that are only awake at night?

4. Tamen had no idea his mother could build a fire. Do you think your parents, siblings or caregivers have any talents they have not shared with you? Ask them and share with your peers.

5. Can you find Polaris (North Star)? Why is the North Star important?

[WHAT IS THE NORTH STAR AND HOW DO YOU FIND IT? – NASA SOLAR SYSTEM EXPLORATION](#)

6. Listen to Maine Calling's episode, "[THE DARK SKY MOVEMENT IN MAINE & WHY LIGHT POLLUTION IS HARMFUL](#)," and then have a group discussion.



## LET'S CREATE! Book-Inspired Art

### A. MAKE YOUR OWN CONSTELLATION:

1. Use a pencil to draw an outline of your constellation on a dark piece of paper. Keep in mind that curves can be tricky. (It could be an animal, person, or other recognizable shape.)
2. Use a push pin to make holes along the exterior lines in your drawing.
3. Turn off the lights and shine a flashlight through it onto a wall. (If it's not dark, you can tape your design to a window and the backlight should show your constellation just fine!)



Teachers: If you tape the constellations to your classroom windows the daylight will shine through and you will have the night sky in your classroom!

#### *Bonus:*

- When you're done displaying your constellations, cut your shape out, use metallic colored pencils to highlight, and create a whole new art form!
- Can you make up a myth about your constellation?

### B. MAKE YOUR OWN COMIC BOOK ABOUT THE NIGHT SKY AROUND YOU!

You can use the template on our [EMBG FOR FARAWAY FRIENDS](#) (also in Appendix A)

### C. PAINT YOUR OWN GALAXY:

1. Drop blobs of multiple colors of tempera paints onto a piece of paper or cardboard and swirl them together.
2. Next, take dark blue or black cardstock/heavy construction paper and press it onto the swirled paint. Peel apart, add glitter, and let dry on newspaper.
3. Name your galaxy and write a backstory about it!



## LET'S DIVE DEEPER! [Explore More](#)

- [Dark Sky Maine](#)
- Become a Junior Ranger Night Explorer with Acadia National Park. Print out a guide [HERE](#).
- Connect with and follow [THE CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER OF MAINE](#)
- [BORTLE DARK SKY SCALE](#)
- [COUNTRY SKY/CITY SKY](#): See how 6 adjacent vertical photo segments taken from different locations compare
- [EXPLORING POLARIS, THE NORTH STAR](#)
- [LUNAR AND PLANETARY INSTITUTE'S EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES](#)

## READ MORE! [Text to Text Connections](#)

