

Lesson Plan for ages 10+

Resource – Book ‘The Island’ by Armin Greder

Learning objectives:

- Understand the themes of fear, exclusion, and empathy in the story.
- Recognise how people can be treated unfairly because they are “different.”
- Reflect on why kindness and inclusion matter in their own communities.
- Make connections between the story and real-life social issues.

Main activity:

Split the class

- o Half argue to welcome the man.
- o Half argue to send him away.
- o Encourage them to think about reasons (safety, fear, kindness, survival, fairness).

Debate

- o Each side presents their arguments.
- o Afterwards, allow reflection: What arguments were strong? What was missing?

Link to Real World

- o Define refugee and migrant and compare with how they are spoken about today.

Extra activity:

Set Up the Hot Seat

- o Place one chair at the front of the room as the hot seat.
- o One student sits in the chair as a character from the story (the man, a villager, or even the fisherman who first finds him).

Q&A With the Group - other students ask the character questions like:

- “Why did you make that choice?”
- “How do you feel about what happened?”
- “What would you do differently if you could?”

