Not As We Know It – Discussion Questions

*Not As We Know It* is a book about the bond between brothers. In what ways do we see how close Jamie and Ned are?

The brother’s garage is full of items found on the seashore. What would you expect to find in their garage that the author has not mentioned?

Things begin to change when the brothers find a merman on the beach. What does Leonard change about the boys’ relationship?

Ned and Jamie have different ideas about why Leonard has come. Discuss how their ideas change throughout the book.

Granddad and his stories help the boys understand different things about Leonard. Discuss what each story brought to the boys and how it helped them understand the merman.

The members of Ned’s family react in different ways to his illness and what happens to him. Discuss how the family react and how they help each other to understand.

At the end of the book, Jamie is not certain of what happened to his brother. What do you think happened?