


Felix

AND THE TREASURE
OF MORGÄA



TEACHING GUIDE

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MAISON **4** : **3**

Felix

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STORY OUTLINE

Twelve-year-old Felix is convinced that his father, who disappeared at sea two years ago, is still alive. So Felix sets out to find his dad, accompanied by Old Tom, a retired sailor; Squawk, a one-legged parrot; and Rover, a cat who acts like a dog. Their quest takes them to Darkshadow Island, where, in an underground city, a secret society is ruled over by the megalomaniacal Morgäa, possessor of a unique treasure.

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A Note to Parents and Teachers: This guide is intended to stimulate discussion in the classroom and at home, bridging generations and providing information on various subjects connected with the film. Hints have been placed in the text throughout the document to help children come up with answers to the questions. In addition, answers to the questions are provided at the end of the document, along with online references which can be found on the last page.

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Start by writing
your own review of the film!

ANALYSIS

1. What kind of film is it?
 - Possible answers: **adventure, drama, comedy, mystery, thriller, science fiction**, etc.
2. If you were going to describe the main characters, what would you say about them?
3. Which character did you find most interesting? Why?
4. The plot:
 - From the outset, what does Felix want to do?
 - How does he go about doing it?
 - Do things go as planned?
 - What does he discover during his adventure?
 - How does he overcome his difficulties?
 - How does the film end?
5. What did you like best about the film?
6. Was there anything you liked less, or that bothered you?
7. Was there anything you didn't understand?
8. The music is instrumental. That means there are no words. The music was specially composed for the film. Do you think the music accompanies the action well? Was there a moment that particularly stood out for you? Would you have preferred music with words, or popular songs?
9. The film talks about immortality. What impressions did you come away with?
10. Does this film have a message?



COMPOSITION

11. Now you can write a brief review of the film, in one or two paragraphs. You can start out with some of the elements that were mentioned above, then conclude by giving your opinion of the film!

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Did you know that your ears and nose keep growing throughout your life? The eyes, however (the ocular globes) stay the same size!



THE STAGES OF LIFE

At birth, each of us is a sweet, gurgling little baby like Mia. As we grow, we learn to walk and talk. We go to school, passing from childhood to adolescence, and eventually we become adults. We're always growing and developing!

- In the film, Mia, who is less than 2 years old, can't talk yet. This causes her mother to worry. Do you think she's right to worry? At what age do you think babies start to talk, and how do they learn to talk?
- Do you think there's an age at which we become old?
- What does aging mean to you?
- Is it possible to stay young forever?
- List some of the characteristics that are associated with being young and with being older.

Characteristics of younger people	Characteristics of older people

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In the distant past, more than 10,000 years ago, humans only lived about 30 years. In today's society, the average lifespan is 80 years, and some people make it to over 100! Isn't that amazing?

Many people dream of becoming immortal. History records that some individuals believed that by drinking a potion, they would be able to stay young forever! Unfortunately for them, the plan didn't work, and now they're just part of history. Their beliefs were somewhat utopian – in other words, an impossible dream.

These days, people are living longer and longer. So much can be accomplished! How is this possible?

Class Discussion

Objective: An open discussion on the abstract subject of immortality, exploring what actions and sacrifices people might be willing to make to achieve their dreams, and examining the fundamental values of family life.

- If you had the opportunity to live forever, would you take it? What would be the consequences if you did?
- Why do you think life expectancy is higher than it used to be?
- The film's director, Nicola Lemay, says that love of family is the greatest treasure. What do you think is the greatest treasure?



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Match each character to the description that fits best!

1 This companion of Old Tom's is great at guiding the boat through storms. And he's no slouch when it comes to playing cards, having fun or stealing fish!

2 This loyal but complicated henchman would do anything for his boss Morgäa. He's a firm believer in scientific progress, and, oddly for such a sneaky guy, he also has a social conscience.

3 This slightly grumpy retired sailor knows all about the legend of the treasure of Darkshadow Island. How far will he go to help Felix with his quest? To his great surprise, he'll finally learn the truth about a famous disappearance.

4 This young woman wants to help out her sister, but she has trouble carrying out her duties as a babysitter while her sister is away on vacation!

5 This faithful companion of Felix's acts just like a dog. He barks, he loves to chew on bones, and he has a keen nose. He turns out to be a helpful ally on his young master's quest.

6 This charismatic, megalomaniacal woman leads a mysterious community, striving to make her grand dream a reality. But can she get everyone to go along with her scheme?

7 This boy will do whatever it takes to find his father! He's resourceful, brave and tenacious – but can he overcome the obstacles that stand in his way and achieve his objective?

8 This baby knows how to express everything she's thinking... without saying a word. Give her a suitcase on rollers to play with, and she'll be perfectly happy!

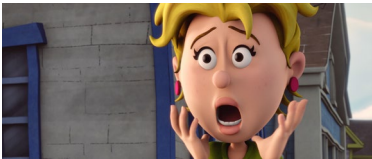
9 This weary mother follows her sister's urgings and leaves for a restful vacation, unaware that her son will take advantage of her absence to get into serious trouble.

10 This boy is Felix's best friend. He may remember the rules of every video game, but he quickly forgets his own duties under a certain secret plan!

ROVER



ANNIE



MORGÄA



TOM



FELIX



MARLENE



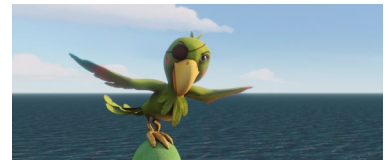
MAX



MIA



SQUAWK



KLAUS





QUIZ!

Did you pay attention to the film? Let's find out!

A Note to Parents and Teachers: This exercise stimulates visual and auditory memory, as well as attentiveness. The questions can be read before viewing, to focus attention on particular elements, or after viewing, to work on overall comprehension.



1. What is special about Rover the cat?
2. Why does Felix want to go out to sea?
3. When Felix first goes out on the water alone with Rover, what kind of boat does he use?
4. What does Felix know that his father doesn't?
5. What is the legend of Morgää that sailors talked about?
6. What is on Darkshadow Island?
7. How many games of cards has Tom played this year?
8. What items does Felix bring along in his knapsack?
9. What does Felix do with the items he's brought along?
10. How does Felix find a way into the underground city?
11. What is the real treasure of Morgää?
12. How did Morgää discover the spider's powers?
13. What does Morgää do to transform people?
14. What has Morgää created?
15. What was Morgää's name previously?
16. What promise does Max make to Felix, and fail to keep?
17. What puts baby Mia in a good mood?

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In the Magdalen Islands today, lighthouses have symbolic value. They're emblems.¹



LIGHTHOUSES

With their bright beams, lighthouses can be seen from far away when you're on the water. What are they used for? Let's find out!

Before the existence of lighthouses, people would build open fires at the top of a hill so that the shore could be seen from far out on the water. The first lighthouse was built at Alexandria, on the Egyptian island of Pharos, around the year 280 BCE. It was considered to be one of the seven wonders of the world, and stood about 135 metres high, including the statue at its top. It helped sailors navigate safely for almost 1,700 years. Because there was no electricity at that time, light was created by a mirror that reflected the glow of a fire.²

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Long ago, more than 150 years ago, it was dangerous for sailors and fishermen to navigate the waters around the **Magdalen Islands**. There were numerous shipwrecks, and many people who ventured out on those waters never came home from their voyage.

The islanders decided to guide and protect those who sailed on the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, so they constructed lighthouses. The light showed sailors where dry land was located and incited them to take care. These were dangerous waters, by day or by night, because of reefs and sudden wind squalls. Tom's home in *Felix and the Treasure of Morgäa* is a real lighthouse, located at l'Anse-à-la-Cabane. It's the oldest (1870) and tallest (17.1 metres) lighthouse in the islands.

People rarely slept in lighthouses. The lighthouse keepers usually lived in a small house nearby. They were often alone with their families, since there were no roads or electricity.



And the keeper had a lot to do. The job wasn't easy. He had to guide passing vessels and protect sailors from danger. He was the one who kept the lighthouse in good working order. Imagine going up and down 4 floors on narrow staircases, repeatedly, day and night. The keeper had to be in good shape! He lit and extinguished the lamp and turned it regularly. For working 365 days a year, he received \$300. That's not even a dollar a day!

Since 1970, there have been no more keepers, because lighthouses do everything themselves. They're automated.



The lighthouse at l'Anse-à-la-Cabane (1870)

Lighthouse at l'Île d'Entrée
(1874-1908) Destroyed by lightning

Borgot Lighthouse
(1874-1967)

Lighthouse at l'Île Brion
(1904-)

Lighthouse at Cap-Aligné
(1928)

Lighthouse at Rocher aux Oiseaux
(1870-1988)

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- Why are these structures called “Lighthouses”?
- The first lighthouse was 135 metres high. Which of the following is about the same height?
 - A church with its bell tower
 - Dinosaurs
 - Four-storey building
 - Eiffel Tower
 - Giraffe
 - The Pyramid of Kheops
- Why was the first lighthouse in the **Magdalen Islands** built?
- How many lighthouses are there in the **Magdalen Islands**?

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THE COAST GUARD

Annie, Felix's aunt, calls the coast guard to report the disappearance of her nephew. The coast guard officer listens very seriously until he realizes that Felix has gone off with Tom.

"With old Tom, your nephew's in good hands. No need to worry. And you can look forward to some tasty fish when they get back!"

Coast guard officer

- What could the coast guard have done?



PORT AND STARBOARD

Tom teaches Felix how to handle a boat. He lets Felix take the wheel and explains how the boat's speed is measured. Later, during the storm, Tom makes use of a very precise vocabulary: he mentions the terms "port" and "starboard" as Squawk the parrot indicates which way they need to go.

- What do "port" and "starboard" mean?
- What is the "wheel"?
- What units are used to measure a boat's speed?

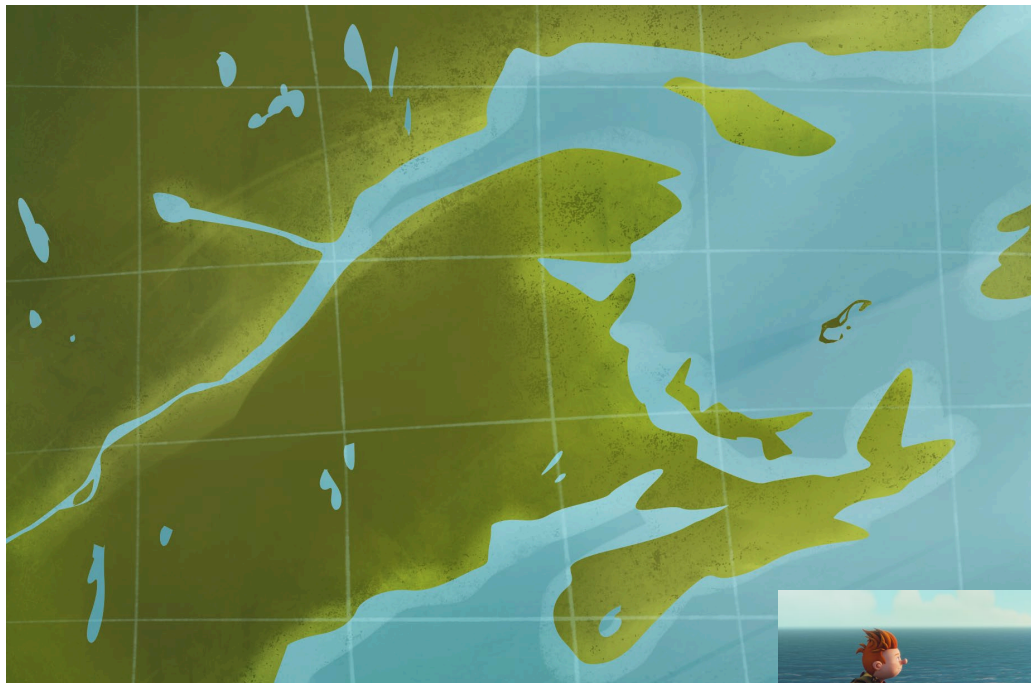
A bit of geography...

In Quebec, there are many charming little islands. *Felix and the Treasure of Morgäa* introduces you to the Magdalen Islands!

Nearly 400 years ago, a man named the archipelago the Magdalen Islands, in honour of his wife Madeleine.³

On these islands, there are many sandy beaches along the shoreline, and the cliffs are red sandstone. The area is swept by wind and waves. The **Magdalen Islands** are numerous! In fact, the **Magdalen Islands** archipelago consists of twelve islands, of which six are connected by sand dunes. These six islands are:

- Havre Aubert Island
- Cap aux Meules Island
- Havre aux Maisons Island
- Pointe aux Loups Island
- Grosse Île Island
- Grande Entrée Island



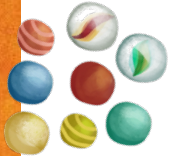
- Where are the **Magdalen Islands**? Circle them on the map.
- What is an archipelago?
- People who live on an island are known as _____.
- The people who live in the **Magdalen Islands** are known as _____.

- Since they're islands, how do you think it's possible to travel to the **Magdalen Islands**?
- How can we recognize the **Magdalen Islands** in the film? If you've been there before, did you recognize any landscapes?

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Felix uses various toys to deal with threats, and Tom plays cards to pass the time. Here's a presentation on a few of these toys and games.



MARBLES

This game is so old that no one really knows when it was invented. The ancient Egyptians and Romans played marbles regularly! Their version of the game involved taking a round object, like a hazelnut, and tossing it in a hole. Today, marbles are usually made of glass or plastic, and some people even have collections of marbles! There are lots of different ways to play the game. What's your favourite way to play marbles?



FLYING DISC

It all started in 1948, when a couple at the beach was having fun tossing around a box of popcorn. They realized that a foil pie plate would fly much better because of its shape! At first, the toy was called a "Flyin' Cake." Later on, it took the name "Frisbee" – which is the name everyone knows today. In its present form, it's a plastic disc in the shape of a pie plate, which people young and old love to play with! ⁴

The concept is simple. You throw the flying disc, and someone else catches it. It's very popular at the beach!

- In recent years, a team sport that uses the flying disc has become very popular. Can you name this new sport?
- Do you like throwing the disc? Can you share some tips on throwing and catching? It's harder than it looks!

YO-YO

One of the world's oldest toys, along with the spinning top and marbles, is the round toy on a string that spins up and down, providing fun for kids all over the world. At one time, rich people loved the toy, and luxury versions were sold. It was in 1930 that the toy began to be marketed under the name of "yo-yo." ⁵



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“At my age, a person’s happiest when time passes slowly. That’s why my favourite thing to do is sit quietly and play solitaire. You should give it a try.”

Tom



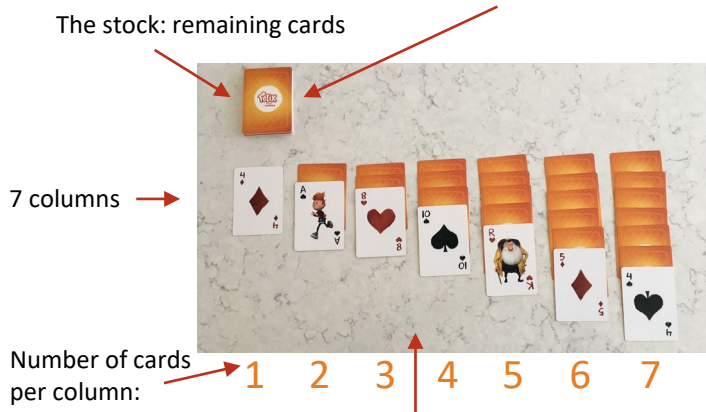
THE GAME OF SOLITAIRE

Solitaire (also known as “patience”) is a card game that is played alone. A single game can go on for a long time! And sometimes it happens that the game ends in failure. You have to make the right decisions, but you also need some luck. So the game requires... patience!

LAYOUT

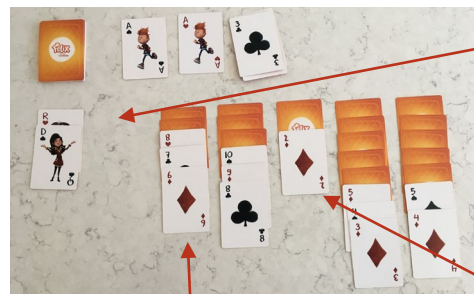
Take the first 3 cards from the stock and try to place them on the table, one after another. When that’s not possible, draw 3 fresh cards from the stock, and keep going.

PLAY



Place 1 additional card in each column, with the first card face up and the others face down.

Object: To create 4 stacks of cards of the same suit (hearts, diamonds, spades, or clubs) in order, starting with the ace.



Shift the cards to create sequences that go from high to low, with alternating colours (red/black/red/black).

If a space is empty, you can place a king there and start a new column.

If one of the face-down cards is uncovered, turn it over so that it’s face up.

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THE GAME OF SOLITAIRE

- Why is solitaire also known as “patience”?
- The 19th century refers to what years?
- Name the two colours and four suits of cards.
- Some adults feel that life moves too fast these days. Why do you think playing solitaire helps Tom stay calm?
- Do you know any other card games? Share them with your classmates, friends and family!



Note to Teachers: Class activity: in teams, have students explain the rules of a card game they know, for one player, two, or more. They name the game, present the objective, explain the rules, and guide another team in learning to play.

- Objectives: synthesizing rules, sharing knowledge, addressing and guiding fellow students.
- Social activity



VIDEO GAMES

Felix’s friend Max is always glued to his TV and his video games. He even gets red-eyed and becomes obsessed by the idea of finishing his game. Running out of batteries and being unable to finish his game is so upsetting to him that he forgets all about his promise to Felix: that he’ll stay in the house.

- Why do you think Max is so distracted?
- What are some good and bad aspects of video games?
- How would you encourage Max to do other things?
- Who else in the film gets distracted by a video game?

“There are too many screens around here!”

Who says that in the film?

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The following pages contain 4 piano scores composed by Gilles Léveillé, who created the music for the film.

Do you have an ear for music? Do you have some piano training and want to play the music from the film at home? Here's your chance!

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"Felix and the Treasure of Morgäa" Main Title

Easy piano

Gilles Lèveillé

♩ = 70

Piano

mf *p*

Pn.

f

Pn.

mf

"Felix and the Treasure of Morgää"
Main Title

Felix

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13

Pn.

16

Pn.

18

Pn.

21

Pn.

24

Pn.

rall....

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Darkshadow Island (Morgäa's Theme)

Easy piano

Gilles Léveillé

$\bullet = 100$ misterioso

Piano

mp *mf*

Pn.

$\sharp e$

Pn.

Pn.

16

rall... a tempo

Darkshadow Island
(Morgäa's Theme)



AND THE TREASURE
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21

Pn.

26

Pn.

31

Pn.

36

Pn.

rall.....

Felix

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Hope and Love

Easy piano

Gilles Lèveillé

Piano

$\text{♩} = 80$ dolce

mp

Pn.

5

Pn.

10

Pn.

14

mf

Hope and Love

Felix

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18

Pn.

21

Pn.

24

rall... a tempo

Pn.

mp

28

rall.....

Pn.

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Madeleine and Tom (Love Theme)

Gilles Lèveillé

Easy piano

$\bullet = 100$ dolce

rall....

Piano

Measures 1-4: Treble clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *p*. Tempo: *dolce*. Performance markings: *rall....*

5

Pn.

Measures 5-8: Treble clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *mp*. Tempo: *a tempo*.

9

Pn.

Measures 9-12: Treble clef, 3/4 time.

13

Pn.

Measures 13-16: Treble clef, 3/4 time. Dynamics: *mf*.

Madeleine and Tom
(Love Theme)



AND THE TREASURE
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35

Pn.

38

Pn.

42

Pn.

45

rall.....

Pn.

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Film Review – page 3

1. What kind of film is this?
 - Adventure, comedy

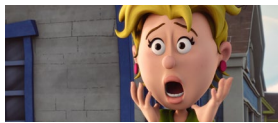
The Stages of Life – page 4

- In the film, Mia, who is less than 2 years old, can't talk yet. This causes her mother to worry. Do you think she's right to worry? At what age do you think babies start to talk, and how do they learn to talk?
- All children develop at their own pace. Babies learn to talk by imitation, listening to their parents and relatives as they talk to them. That is why it's so important to talk to children all the time! When they're ready, a first word comes out, followed by another. At first, they're simple words like mama, papa, milk, and so on. But very quickly, words become sentences, and then there's no stopping them!

Who's Who? – page 6



Rover is Felix's faithful companion who acts just like a dog. He barks, he loves to chew on bones, and he has a keen nose. He turns out to be a helpful ally on his young master's quest.



Annie is the young woman who wants to help out her sister, but she has trouble carrying out her duties as a babysitter while her sister is away on vacation!



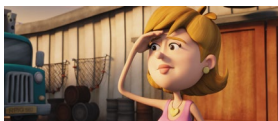
Morgäa is the charismatic, megalomaniacal leader of a mysterious community, striving to make her grand dream a reality. But can she get everyone to go along with her plan?



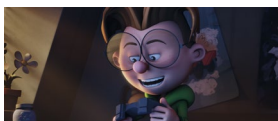
Tom is the slightly grumpy retired sailor who knows all about the legend of the treasure of Darkshadow Island. How far will he go to help Felix with his quest? To his great surprise, he'll finally learn the truth about a famous disappearance.



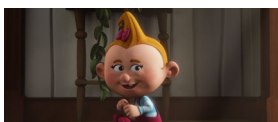
Felix will do whatever it takes to find his father! He's resourceful, brave and tenacious – but can he overcome the obstacles that stand in his way and achieve his objective?



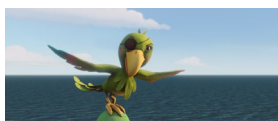
Marlene is the loving mother of Felix and Mia. Worn out, she follows her sister's urgings and leaves for a restful vacation, unaware that her son will take advantage of her absence to get into serious trouble.



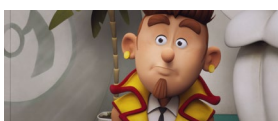
Max is Felix's best friend. He may remember the rules of every video game, but he quickly forgets his own duties under a certain secret plan!



Baby Mia knows how to express everything she's thinking... without saying a word. Give her a suitcase on rollers to play with, and she'll be perfectly happy!



Squawk the one-legged parrot, Old Tom's companion, is great at guiding the boat through storms. And he's no slouch when it comes to playing cards, having fun or stealing fish!



Klaus is the loyal but complicated henchman who would do anything for his boss Morgäa. He's a firm believer in scientific progress, and, oddly for such a sneaky guy, he also has a social conscience.

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Quiz – page 7

1. What is special about Rover the cat?
 - He acts like a dog.
2. Why does Felix want to go out to sea?
 - To find his father, who disappeared 2 years ago.
3. When Felix first goes out on the water alone with Rover, what kind of boat does he use?
 - An inflatable rubber dinghy with an outboard motor.
4. What does Felix know that his father doesn't?
 - That Felix now has a baby sister, Mia.
5. What is the legend of Morgäa that sailors talked about?
 - The legend is that Morgäa's treasure is a chest full of gold and jewels.
6. What is on Darkshadow Island?
 - A secret society led by Morgäa.
7. How many games of cards has Tom played this year?
 - 1000
8. What items does Felix bring along in his knapsack?
 - A flying disc, a "slinky," a "yo-yo," a slingshot, marbles, a baseball, a fishing rod, fake glasses (with nose and moustache), and his father's cap.
9. What does Felix do with the items he's brought along?
 - He uses the toys to evade guards and to defend himself. After sniffing the cap, Rover uses his keen sense of smell to find Felix's father, Jack.
10. How does Felix find a way into the underground city?
 - Rover chases a squirrel through a gap in some rocks. The gap opens onto a passage leading to the underground city.
11. What is the real treasure of Morgäa?
 - Eternal life.
12. How did Morgäa discover the spider's powers?
 - During an excursion to the island with her boyfriend Tom, she fell and was stung by the spider.
13. What does Morgäa do to transform people?
 - She has the spider sting new arrivals, after they pay a large sum of money.
14. What has Morgäa created?
 - A secret society, a sect, even a cult. A place where the residents aren't allowed to leave.
15. What was Morgäa's name previously?
 - Madeleine
16. What promise does Max make to Felix, and fail to keep?
 - He promises not to leave his house for any reason, during an entire week.
17. What puts baby Mia in a good mood?
 - Playing with a suitcase on rollers, or eating out of her bunny dish.



Lighthouses – page 10

- Why are these structures called “Lighthouses”?
 - Lighthouses are buildings that project bright beams of light to help sailors navigate safely.
- The first lighthouse was 135 metres high. Which of the following is about the same height?
 - A church with its bell tower (78.5 metres)
 - Dinosaurs (12 metres)
 - Four-storey building (17 metres)
 - Eiffel Tower (300 metres)
 - Giraffe (5 metres)
 - **The Pyramid of Kheops (139 metres)**
- Why was the first lighthouse in the Magdalen Islands built?
 - Because there were numerous shipwrecks and the waters were dangerous.
- How many lighthouses are there in the Magdalen Islands?
 - There are 6 lighthouses in the Magdalen Islands. But the lighthouses at Brion Island and Rocher aux Oiseaux are difficult to reach.

Coast Guard / Port and Starboard – page 11

- What could the coast guard have done?
 - The coast guard is a government agency that is responsible for the safety of vessels at sea. Generally, the coast guard handles coastal search and rescue operations. The coast guard could have sent out rescue teams to search for Felix and Tom.
- What do “port” and “starboard” mean?
 - When looking forward on a boat, the term “port” means the left side and the term “starboard” means the right side. Tom uses those terms when Squawk tries to guide him.
- What is the “wheel”?
 - It’s the mechanism for steering a boat.
- What units are used to measure a boat’s speed?
 - Nautical miles per hour, or “knots.”

The Magdalen Islands – page 12



- Circle the Magdalen Islands on the map.
- What is an archipelago?
 - It’s a group of islands located close to each other in a body of water.
- People who live on an island are known as
 - islanders
- People who live in the Magdalen Islands are known as
 - Madelinots
- Since they’re islands, how do you think it’s possible to travel to the Magdalen Islands?
 - By airplane or boat
- How can we recognize the Magdalen Islands in the film? If you’ve been there before, did you recognize any landscapes?
 - We can recognize the islands in the film by, among other details, the lighthouse at l’Anse-à-la-Cabane and the community of La Grave on Havre-Aubert Island, with its red rocks and the colourful houses in the town’s centre.

Toys and Games, Flying Disc – page 13

- In recent years, a team sport that uses the flying disc has become very popular. Can you name this new sport?
 - Ultimate Frisbee

Felix

AND THE TREASURE
OF MORGÄA



The Game of Solitaire – page 15

- Why is solitaire also known as “patience”?
 - It’s a game that requires time, concentration and patience!
- The 19th century refers to what years?
 - 1800 to 1899
- Name the two colours and four suits of cards?
 - Red: hearts and diamonds
 - Black: clubs and spades
- Some adults feel that life moves too fast these days. Why do you think playing solitaire helps Tom stay calm?
 - When we concentrate on a single activity, whether it’s reading, drawing, music, participating in a sport, or playing a game of solitaire, our mind can focus on that activity and not think about anything else. That can have a very positive effect, calming the mind and making time seem to pass more slowly.

Video Games – page 15

- Who else in the film gets distracted by a video game?
 - Morgäa’s guard is supposed to be watching the surveillance screens. He complains that there are too many of them. But the truth is, he was playing a game on his tablet and not paying attention when Felix, Tom, Rover and Squawk were caught by the surveillance cameras. Like Max, the guard was distracted!

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- 3 <https://www.tourismeilesdelamadeleine.com/en/discover-the-islands/unique-features-of-the-region/history/>
- 4 <https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-the-frisbee-4072561>
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For more information on the **Magdalen Islands**, visit <https://www.tourismeilesdelamadeleine.com/en/>.