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Date _____

Explorer Academy (Book 1) The Nebula Secret

by Trudi Trueit

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

Adventure, danger, and a thrilling global mission await 12-year-old Cruz Coronado as he joins an elite school for explorers.

Cruz leaves his tranquil home in Hawaii to join 23 talented kids from around the globe to train at the Explorer Academy with the world's leading scientists to become the next generation of great explorers. But for Cruz, there's more at stake. No sooner has he arrived at the Academy than he discovers that his family has a mysterious past with the organization that could jeopardize his future. In the midst of codebreaking and cool classes, new friends, and augmented reality expeditions, Cruz must tackle the biggest question of all: Who is out to get him, and why?

AR Reading Level: 4.7

Who Wrote It?

Growing up in Kent, WA, I loved storytelling. I started writing plays in the fourth-grade and would cast my friends in the roles. Our teacher, Mrs. Zielinski, would let us perform the plays for the class and sometimes, the whole school! After earning a B.A. from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA, I became a TV news reporter and weather forecaster, first for KAPP TV in Yakima, WA then KREM TV in Spokane, WA. My first book contract for kids was a weather series for Scholastic Library Press. A few years later came my debut fiction series, Julep O'Toole (Penguin). Since then, I've published more than 100 fiction and nonfiction titles for young readers.



With the release of the EXPLORER ACADEMY series, I became the first author to write fiction for National Geographic (a huge thrill!). Learn more on her website: www.trudittrueit.com

Lexile Level: 660L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.