

Gisterhood Gleanths

Outreach Program

- Facilitator's Guide
- Student Empowerment Worksheets



Chapter 13

Crossroads of Trust (Facilitator Narrative)

1. Chapter Overview

In this emotional turning point, the Sisterhood Sleuths face both internal and external challenges. After discovering that the coded messages in the tunnels lead to the valley near Mt. Baldy, the group must decide whether to trust their instincts—or each other. Old wounds resurface, and new doubts test their unity. When secrets come to light, the sleuths must rebuild trust through empathy and honesty. Through forgiveness, they rediscover what binds them together: courage, friendship, and a shared mission to uncover the truth.

2. Core Life Lessons

- Trust Grows Through Honesty: Trust is earned through words and actions that align.
- Forgiveness Strengthens Bonds: Healing begins when we choose to understand rather than blame.
- Unity in Diversity: Each team member's strength fills another's weakness.
- Growth Through Conflict: Disagreement can spark deeper understanding and change.

3. Character Focus

Chloe – Faces self-doubt but shows maturity by listening before judging.

Lily – Acts as the emotional compass, bridging divisions through compassion.

Gil – Balances logic and emotion, emphasizing responsibility and loyalty.

Aoife – Connects intuition with science, proving that logic and faith can coexist.

Thalia – Brings humor and heart, reminding everyone that laughter heals wounds.

4. Learning Discussion Prompts

1. What causes the tension among the team, and how do they resolve it?
2. How does Chloe demonstrate leadership during conflict?
3. Why is forgiveness important after betrayal or misunderstanding?
4. How can honesty rebuild relationships that have been damaged?
5. What does unity mean in your life—at school, home, or community?

5. Connection to Real Life

Students can reflect on moments when friendships or family trust were tested. The story highlights emotional intelligence—recognizing that real strength lies not in perfection, but in empathy and openness. Just as the sleuths rebuild trust, students can explore how understanding and forgiveness create stronger teams in real life.

6. Suggested Activities

- The Trust Tree Challenge 🌱: Students design or plant a 'Trust Tree.' Each branch represents a value—honesty, patience, teamwork. They add leaves with examples of actions that build trust.
- Team Map of Strengths: Each student identifies one personal strength and connects it to others' to visualize interdependence.
- Conflict-to-Connection Roleplay: Act out a misunderstanding and rewrite it through honest communication.
- Cipher Message of Hope: Create coded messages about forgiveness and unity using a simple substitution cipher.

7. Song Connection

Song: "Guardians of the Green"

Lyric tie-in: "When roots are shaken, we hold each other steady."

The song celebrates how resilience, teamwork, and honesty allow us to stand strong through change.



Student Worksheet – Ages 10–12



Writing / Reflection

1. Why were the sleuths arguing, and how did they fix it?
2. How can you show a friend they can trust you again?



Multiple Choice / Quick Response

- What symbol did the sleuths find in the forest? (a) A tree with ancient carvings
- What lesson did Chloe learn? (b) Listening builds understanding
- What is the main theme of the chapter? (c) Rebuilding trust



Puzzle / Cipher Exercise

Puzzle: Unscramble TRUSTY

→ TRUST. Write a secret code about teamwork!



Song Connection

Guardians of the Green – 'When roots are shaken, we hold each other steady.'

How do you stay strong with your friends during hard times?



Student Worksheet – Ages 13–15



Writing / Reflection

1. What did Chloe learn about leadership through forgiveness?
2. How does Lily help the group find balance between emotion and reason?



Multiple Choice / Quick Response

- What event triggered conflict among the team? (a) A secret about the tunnels was revealed
- How did Aoife help heal the group's disagreement? (b) By explaining how nature finds balance after storms
- What is the message of the Trust Tree Challenge? (c) Growth comes from care and connection



Puzzle / Cipher Exercise

Cipher Challenge: 20–18–21–19–20

→ TRUST. Decode the word and describe what it means to you.



Song Connection

Guardians of the Green – 'When roots are shaken, we hold each other steady.'

How does this lyric inspire unity after conflict?



Student Worksheet – Ages 16–18



Writing / Reflection

1. What deeper meaning does 'Crossroads of Trust' hold for you personally?
2. How does the team's healing process reflect maturity and emotional intelligence?



Multiple Choice / Quick Response

- Why is forgiveness portrayed as strength, not weakness? (a) Because it requires courage and empathy
- What symbolizes renewal in this chapter? (b) The growing tree under the moonlight
- What leadership quality does Chloe show by forgiving? (c) Emotional resilience



Puzzle / Cipher Exercise

Riddle Cipher: "I bend but do not break. I fall, yet I grow again."

→ TRUST.



Song Connection

Guardians of the Green – 'When roots are shaken, we hold each other steady.'

How does rebuilding trust make a leader stronger?

