**Discussion ideas for …**

**The Astounding Broccoli Boy by Frank Cottrell-Boyce**

* Why do you think Tommy-Lee acted the way he did towards Rory at the beginning of the book? Do you think the story gave you reasons to understand why Tommy-Lee did these things? Think about how you find out more and more about Tommy-Lee as you read your way through the book. Don’t forget to give reasons for what you discuss.
* On page 123, Tommy-Lee tells the Doctor that it’s better now that Rory is in the hospital with him. Discuss the ways that their friendship develops throughout the story and why you think it develops. Did you think this would happen from reading the beginning of the story?
* What difference to the group do you think Koko Kwok made?
* On page 365, Rory considers the fact that his fear may be a superpower. Discuss what you think this might mean and do you agree with him?
* This book was published in 2015, 5 years before the COVID-19 pandemic, a real event. However, the author also tells us about the Woolpit Green Children in the Afterword, an event that was documented in historical records. As a group, discuss how stories can take inspiration from documented events, legends and myths but also provide insight into actual things that have happened.