**Discussion ideas for …**

**Guardians of Magic by Chris Riddell**

* In the first three sections of the book, we meet each of the children in turn. Did you like this way of writing where it’s like the book is written in three separate parts, and they all come together in final section? What were the advantages and disadvantages of writing this way?
* The book has illustrations on a lot of the pages. Is this something that should be in all chapter books, or should it be reserved for picture books only? Do you think it helps the reader or did it annoy you? Break into teams ‘for’ and ‘against’ and debate the issue.
* The themes of loyalty and friendship run through the book, and it also conveys important messages about the power of nature and how the natural world is something that we need to protect. The storyline about the giants and the townsfolk of Beam teaches us that two different communities can live harmoniously alongside each other; there is nothing to fear in ‘the other’. Discuss how these themes are relevant in today’s world.