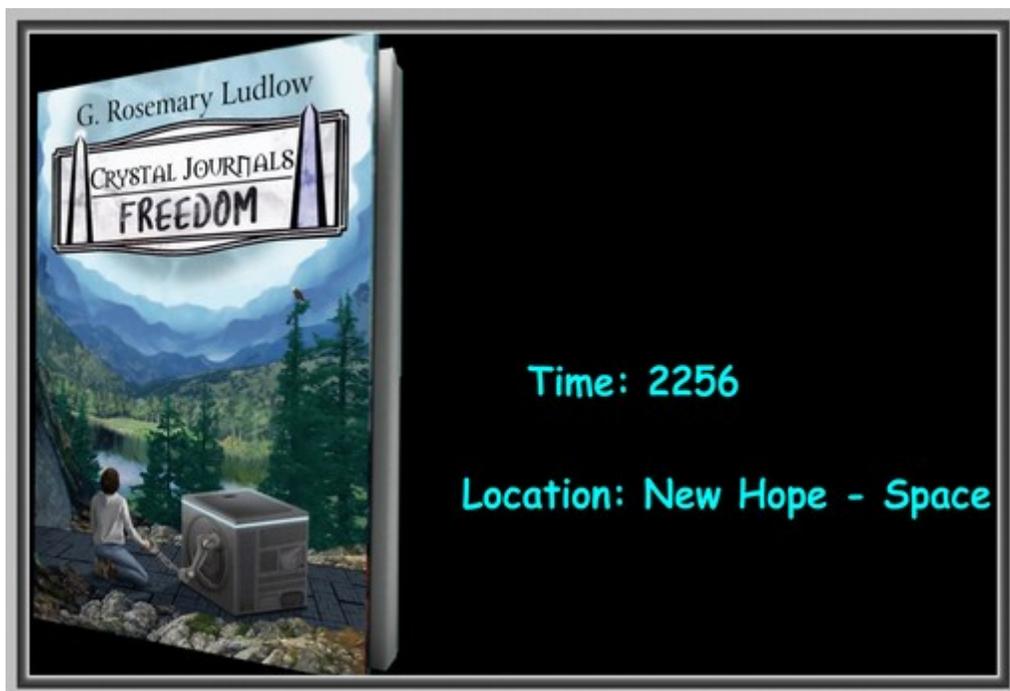
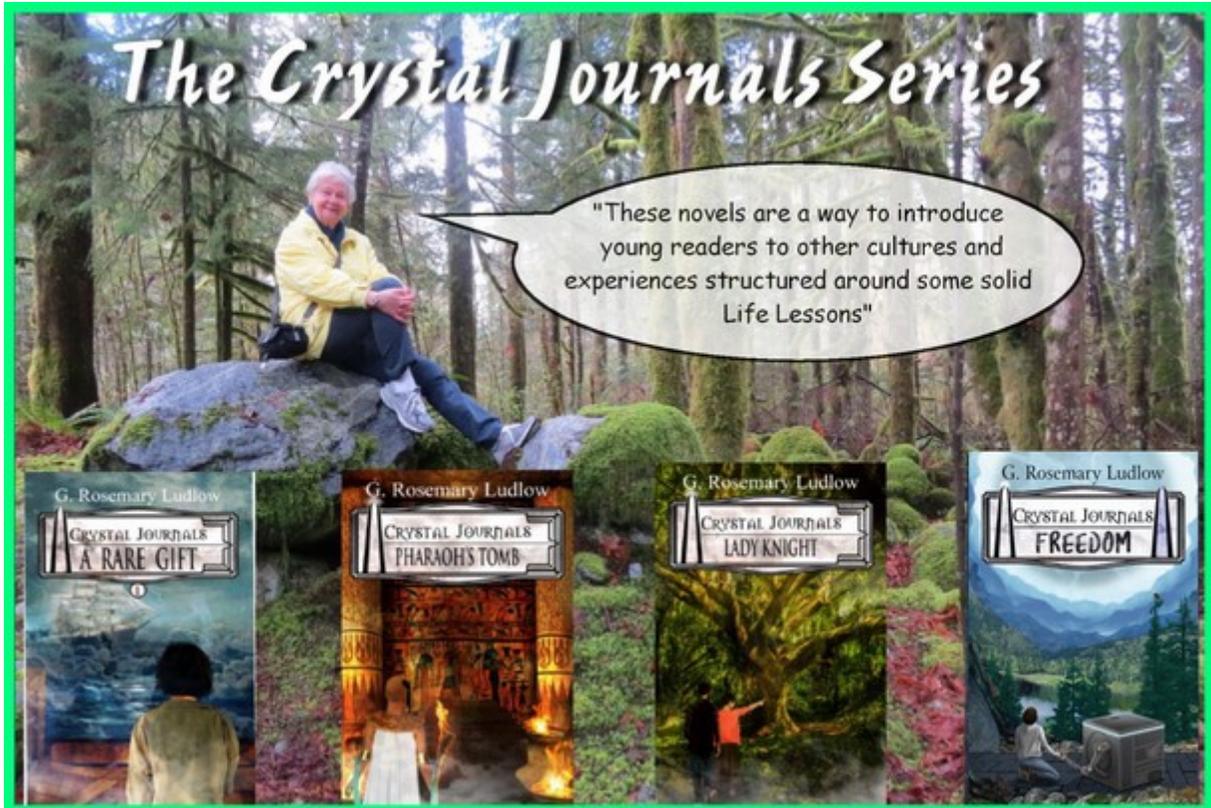


# Teaching Activities IDEAS



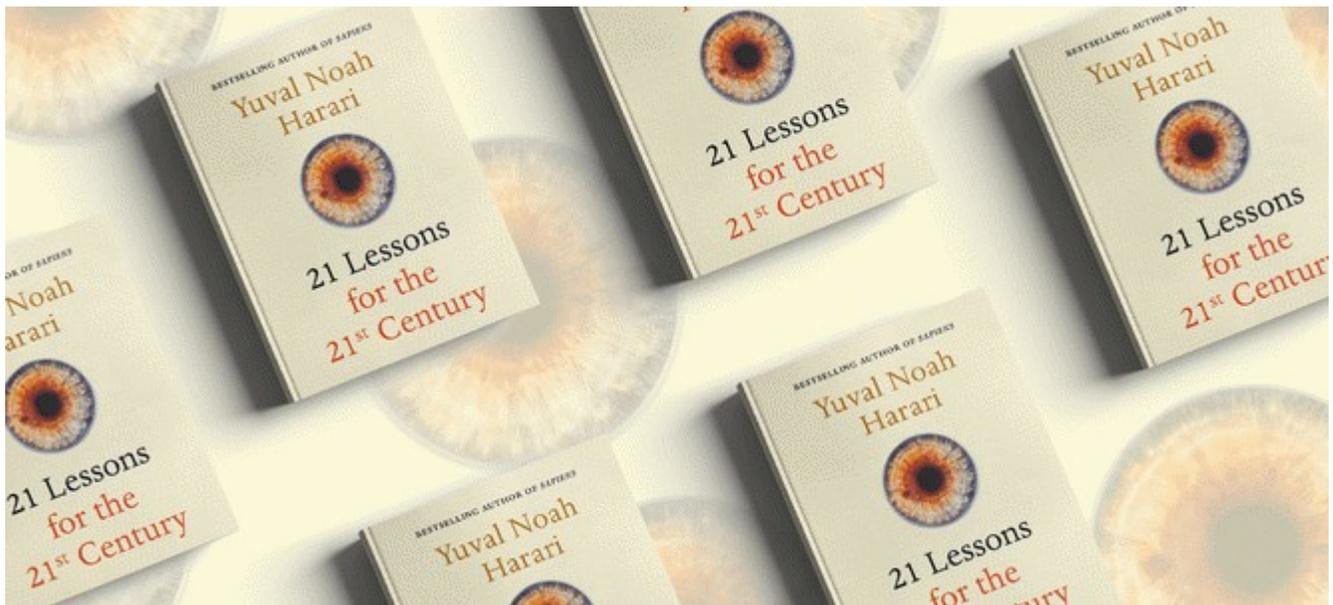
CURIOSITY

CREATIVITY

COLLABORATION

COMMUNICATION

CRITICAL THINKING



[Yuval Noah Harari](#)...feels these are the four skills our children will need to flourish in the world to come. I have taken the liberty of adding “Curiosity”

# Ideas for Teaching Activities

## Critical Thinking

**List all the different ways that Freedom is sought by the characters in this novel.**

**Who is successful in their attempts?**

**Who is not?**

**How do ethics play into the success or failure of the groups?**

## Who and Why

The Children are the most obvious and it is spelled out in the story.

Their parents

Taki’s ancestor who brought his people to Mars

Titan, who takes off into the unknown

The AI

The Suttons

Bossy and Scarface

The Robots

The Pirates

Look at each endeavor from the aspect of the sacrifices made to make it possible. The ethics of each attempt.

## Names in the book

Why do you think the writer chose the names she did?

For Badger, Squirrel, Aurora and Karst.

(They may have to look up Aurora and Karst to get the significance.)

(The children should note that it was a family tradition as their parents’ names follow along the same lines)

Titan is pretty obvious and so is Sassy

Taki (Socrates) is explained.

Veronica Brighton, Marvin, Raj and Humphrey

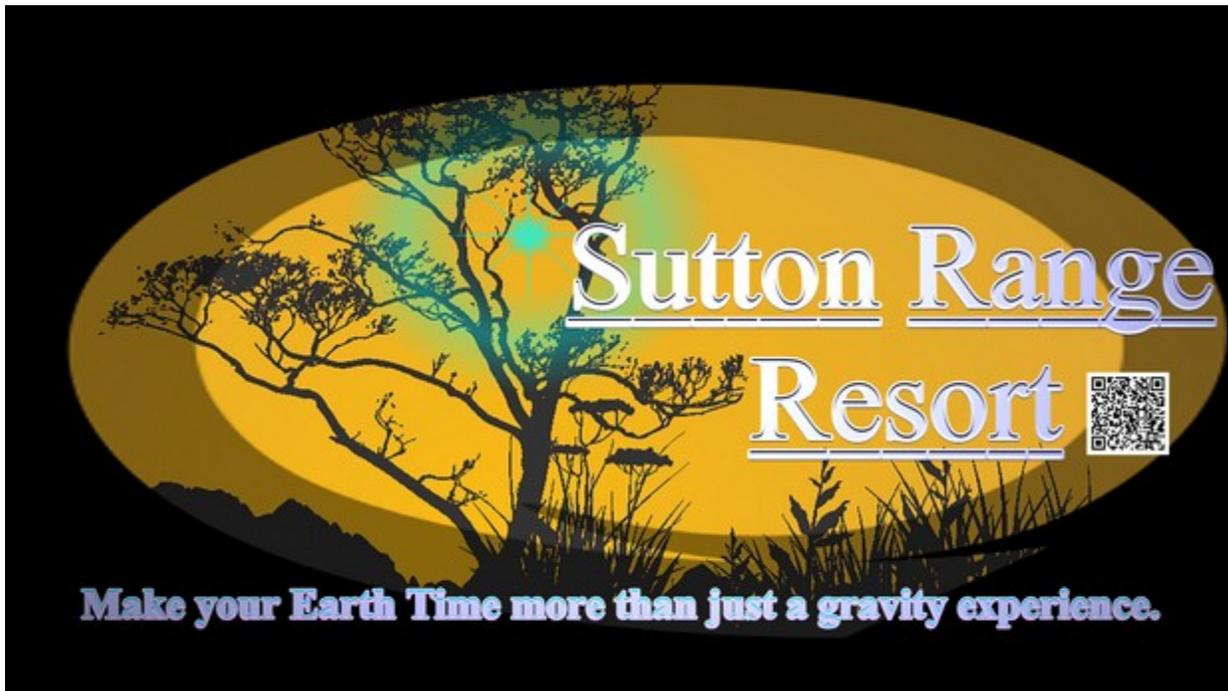
The Brighton surname follows a tradition of taking on the name of the place you are from. You probably have examples of this in your class. My name, Ludlow, stems from an old city in England close to the Welsh border. There are now towns called Ludlow all over the world.

Choose a child in the classroom with such a name and find out all the places where it is used.

(If there are none in the classroom. Try Boston. They’re everywhere. And the US Boston is not the first although it could be the biggest.)

4/8 *Ideas for Teaching Activities*

The Suttons. (The highest area of Vancouver Island is called the Sutton Range. My thoughts were that they took on the name as they acquired the property. Their names became synonymous with the company they own.)



**The Asteroid is called New Hope.**

Brainstorm other possible names that would work. Vote on your favorite. (I would love to get a message on my web site telling me what you chose. I would even respond)



## *Ideas for Teaching Activities*

### Writing

1. Choose a character and write a story about what happens to that character in the next 2 years. I advise against Susan. That's a whole different exercise.
2. Choose an animal and write its story from the time it wakes up on New Hope. (make sure it is an animal that would be present in a habitat representing the Pacific Northwest.) Encourage them to take on the characteristics of the animal. What does it eat? What is it afraid of? What senses does it use? What are its dangers?

### Art

1. It is very difficult to imagine what living inside a tube would be like.
  1. I suggest building one.
  2. It can be as small as a piece of card. 8 x 10.
  3. The children draw pictures on the inside of what it would be like. Using satellite pictures will give them the perspective of the view above their heads.
  4. Then curve it into a tube.
  5. Use lego figures to be inside and then they can imagine what that would be like to be that figure.

If you have access to a section of concrete pipe in the school yard this idea could be taken even further.

2. Pick out one place from the story and make a picture of that spot. It can be any area. Fill in detail from the story, but use your imagination to make the picture what you saw in your head as you read about that place.

### Robots



1. There are many robots in this story.

## *Ideas for Teaching Activities*

Imagine the breakdown of a Leviathan. What parts would be created from the whole. (Some are mentioned in the story but there is plenty of room for imagination to fill in the gaps to keep such a habitat functioning.)

What would be needed for the functioning and upkeep of New Hope.

Note: There are no warrior robots mentioned in the story. Would there be some? If yes, why weren't they deployed against the pirates.

2. If you define a robot as a machine which is able to perform a series of tasks in sequence, and can be programmed to do so, then think about what is in your home and that you use which could fit this description.
  - a. Washing machine
  - b. Bread machine.
  - c. (I'm sure there are others)

### **Habitat**

Why did they bring up cougars, wolves and bears. Why not just bring up the deer and the other harmless creatures?

### **Music**

**The Ride of the Valkyries** is mentioned as the music Partition uses to scare the men invading the garden.

Why would the writer select that piece of music to scare them?

What would the class choose for scaring off the men?

What's a Valkyrie?

**Sousa:** When the robots march on the pirates, Partition plays something rousing with tubas etc. It wasn't mentioned but I was thinking of Sousa. Could be played.

**Trumpet Fanfare:** When Triton arrives as an avatar. It's Hail to the Chief I was thinking of.

### **The Ecosystem**

Many animals are listed. But what other creatures would be present to make a full ecosystem of the Pacific Northwest of North America.

Where is the Pacific Northwest?

Why are animals given Latin names?

### **New Hope**

What is the significance of the quadrant names?

Heinlein, Clark, Asimov, LeGuin

7/8

## *Ideas for Teaching Activities*

For older children they could be encouraged to read some of their stories.  
LeGuin has written YA novels.

Why is the bee hive so important to the girls when they check the gardens?

Demonstrate centrifugal force with a bucket of water.  
What instruments in our society uses centrifugal force.

Consortium: The Consortium of Planets and Space Stations.  
What are some consortiums we have in our world right now.

OPEC

In BC they've just formed a consortium to build a LNG plant in Kitimat.

**Explore your local area. What consortiums function there.**

### **Language**

The language spoken in the far future would be different to the English we speak now. Language changes over time.

Listen to a recording of someone speaking old English.  
Or Jamaican, or Nigerian English in our own time.

Susan has the capacity to understand every language and so I didn't want to burden the text with dialect.

Sirrah: A dictionary definition will show that this has a different meaning in our time than it does in the story. I wanted to have a vehicle for showing how words change their meaning over time.

Examples in our own time.

Gay

Sick

Many take on extra meanings as well.

Book

Chair

Encourage the children to search for examples.

## 8/8 *Ideas for Teaching Activities*

### Group activity

Imagine you have a hollowed out asteroid.

Work out the steps you would go through to create an ecosystem there.

Decide what ecosystem you will create.

Probably easiest for the younger ones to choose the place where they live.

Older Children: Each group could be assigned an Earth Ecosystem. They would need to research it and figure out what creatures they would need.

How do you begin? What will come first?

