Questions About Youth

The island is strictly pre-teen, with no messy hormones to make things even worse. Maybe some of the boys have peach fuzz—we bet Jack does—but in general, these are little boys playing little boy games. Only the games aren't so innocent. Lord of the Flies asks a crucial question: are kids really innocent, or do even six-year-olds have the beast inside? On the one hand, it's hard to say—we only get to know the biguns, so it's possible that the six-year-olds are still innocent. On the other hand, everyone eats the pig, and everyone helps kill Simon. It's not looking good for human nature.

Questions About Youth

Are the children innocent? Are they corrupted by the island and their situation, or do they bring their own darkness?

Has Ralph grown up by the end of the novel? Or does weeping show that he's still a child?

Which characters act the most like adults? What does "adulthood" seem to mean?