

# SHIPWRECK ON CORO ISLAND

STRANDED IN OUR OWN HOME



That's kind of how we're all feeling right now. Four walls become a tiny island where we have landed through no fault of our own. Professional mountaineers know such situations when they are snowed in at base camp. So do astronauts and sailors who spend months in cramped conditions and travel through endless expanses. But for us "normals", this situation is anything but commonplace, made all the more difficult when under quarantine with energetic children, stuck in the house with an urge to move around a lot.

None of us know when our normal post-Corona lives will begin again, let alone whether we will be able to move freely again in Germany, in Europe or around the world this coming summer or autumn. We don't even know when the micro-adventure on our own doorstep can take place again. But who actually says that you have to leave your own property for adventure?



#### ON THE SUNNY SIDE

In contrast to Robinson's tropical island, there are no fruits growing in our garden and apart from a patch of wild garlic, tender dandelion, garlic rocket and goutweed, we won't find much to eat here at this time of year. However, the children don't mind in the least if we ignore the facts and fill our backpacks with food. The sun is shining, but the nights are still bitterly cold, so we choose to adopt the "Robinson Deluxe" version of this tale - taking tents,

sleeping mats, thick sleeping bags, water bottles and clothes for all weather conditions. In addition, on our "beach" at the garden pond, a few pots, two knives and even a camping stove have been washed up. In a barrel, which floats over the water towards us, there are even a few bottles of juice. How could we be so lucky?



### **JUNGLE TOUR**

Frieda and Hannah discover a thick rope under the tree house and knot it to a stable branch of the walnut tree above which Robinson's new home is enthroned. This way they can easily abseil down from the viewing platform and, if one of the wild animals comes too close, can quickly be brought to safety too. "We need a fire, Robinson always had one... so that he would be rescued one day!" Hannah is chosen to be a wood collector. She straps a rucksack on her back and climbs a hanging ladder into the unsafe wilderness full of danger. "Watch out, a panther!" cries Frieda after her as our fat cat strolls leisurely through the garden. "They don't live on a tiny tropical island!" Mio says. "They do now," Frieda decides.



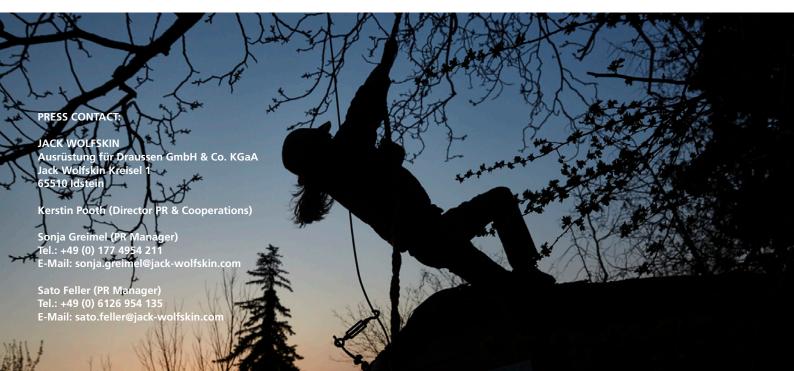
#### **UNTITLED LAND**

"Robinson, what will the weather be like in the next few hours?" Frieda looks into the distance before exclaiming "good!" - she sounds satisfied. "Not a tropical storm in sight?" Hannah says, as she looks up. "Nope, just a little drizzle, maybe. To be on the safe side we set up a tent on the platform in the treetop. Followed by a second one in the tree house, because the children are afraid that a few cunning ship rats have saved themselves from the land and might nibble on their toes tonight. Hannah rolls out her sleeping bag in the sun outside the tent and starts to carve. She sticks a small piece of coal into the hollow stick that

she had found planted in the ground. Time for us to send a message in a bottle! "What's the name of the island where Robinson landed?" asks Frieda. None of us knows. It doesn't matter anyway. After all, we want to send mail from our island. "And what do we call it?" Frieda asks. After all, the island wasn't inhabited before we arrived. "I wonder... Coro Island?" says Mio dryly, making us laugh so hard that Hannah drops the snipping knife. It disappears between the wooden planks. Coro Island - I think that sounds like an adventure. Let's make the best of it.

#### **ISLAND TIME**

Over the campfire hangs the soup pot, from which steams ascends out accompanied by a delicious smell. By a miracle we were able to save a guitar and bring it ashore when the ship was wrecked, now Jen sits with in on the observation deck. Mio, Hannah and Frieda slip into their fleece jackets and sneak around the pond in the twilight, staring out of it we start to see the twinkling of eyes. Toads? No way! There are alligators on Coro Island! Thank goodness they can't climb the tree house and quite incapable of unzipping a tent. At 9 pm, it's already pitch-black. Robinson would have gone to sleep by now. But our children don't care. This is Coro-Island time.



## CORO ISLAND





























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