



Pinocchio



*Retold from the Carlo Collodi original
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STERLING CHILDREN'S BOOKS
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What Do *You* Think?
Questions for Discussion

Have you ever been around a toddler who keeps asking the question “Why?” Does your teacher call on you in class with questions from

your homework? Do your parents ask you questions about your day at the dinner table? We are always surrounded by questions that need a specific response. But is it possible to have a question with no right answer?

The following questions are about the book you just read. But this is not a quiz! They are designed to help you look at the people, places, and events in the story from different angles. These questions do not have specific answers. Instead, they might make you think of the story in a completely new way.

Think carefully about each question and enjoy discovering more about this classic story.

1. Why does Geppetto give Pinocchio the three pears? Have you ever given someone something you wanted for yourself?

2. Pinocchio says, “I think danger is something invented by grown-ups, to frighten children who

want to have fun.” Do you agree? Have you ever done something dangerous?

3. Fairy tells Pinocchio that there are two kinds of lies: those with short legs and those with a long nose. What kind of lie does Pinocchio tell? Do you ever lie?

4. What does Pinocchio discover when he returns to the Field of Wonders? Were you surprised at Fox and Cat’s actions? Have you ever been tricked by a friend?

5. Pinocchio tells the farmer that the weasels tried to bribe him, but says, “As full of faults as I am . . . I refused.” What are Pinocchio’s faults? Is there something good about him? What do you think are your good and bad qualities?

6. Why does Pinocchio refuse to help anyone on the island of the busy bees? Do you think he was right to expect something for nothing? Are you a lazy person or a busy bee?

7. Why do the policemen think that Pinocchio threw the math book at Eugene? Have you ever been accused of something you didn't do?

8. Pinocchio is persistent in his attempts to get out of the shark's stomach, but Geppetto is willing to give up. Why do you think each feels this way? Which of the two characters are you more like?

9. Why does Pinocchio give the snail all of his money? What is the most generous thing you've ever done?

10. How does Pinocchio finally have his wish granted? Do you think he deserved it? What is your fondest wish?