



Journey to the Center of the Earth



*Retold from the Jules Verne original
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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 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

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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. Uncle Liedebrock is described as a stubborn man. What other words would you use to describe him? Do you know anyone like him?

2. How does Axel finally help Uncle Liedebrock crack the code? Why does he do it? If you were Axel, would you have kept the meaning of the note to yourself, or told your uncle?

3. Would you want to go on a journey to the center of the Earth? What do you think it would be like? Do you think it would be like it's described in *Journey to the Center of the Earth*?

4. How does Gräuben help Axel to feel better

about his journey? Do you think she really wants him to go? Is there someone you like to talk to when you feel nervous about something?

5. Axel and Uncle Liedenbrock pack many tools and supplies to help them on their journey. What would you take with you if you were going on this journey with them? Is there anything special that you wouldn't want to leave home without?

6. Were you surprised that Uncle Liedenbrock saved the last drop of water for Axel? Why do you think he does this? What does this tell you about him? If you were Uncle Liedenbrock, would you have saved the last drink for Axel?

7. When Axel loses Uncle Liedenbrock and Hans, how does he react? Have you ever gotten lost before? How did you feel? How did you find your way back?

8. Throughout the journey, Axel tries to plan for the future and think about what could

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

go wrong. Uncle Liedebrook prefers to focus on the present moment and take chances. Do you prefer to plan or to take chances? Can you think of a time when you planned ahead and your plan didn't work? Can you think of a time when you didn't have a plan and wished you had had one?

9. Even though their journey was difficult, do you think it was worth it for Uncle Liedebrook, Axel, and Hans to go to the center of the Earth? Why? What did they discover?

10. What do you think Uncle Liedebrook does after the story ends? Do you think he wants to plan another adventure or take a break for a while? What would you want to do if you were Uncle Liedebrook?