



The Five Little Peppers and How They Grew



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STERLING CHILDREN'S BOOKS
New York

What Do *You* Think? Questions for Discussion



Have you ever been around a toddler who keeps asking the question “Why?” all the time? 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. What do the Pepper children call their mother? Do you have a nickname for either of your parents?

2. How do each of the children help out around the house? Do you have any chores?

3. How do the Pepper children decide to surprise Mamsie for her birthday? Have you ever planned a surprise for someone? Did it work?

4. Ben says the best meal would be roast beef, potatoes, and pie. If you could pick your food for any meal, what would you choose?

5. When Phronsie and Ben come down with

the measles, they have to stay in bed. Have you ever been that sick? How did it make you feel?

6. Why do you suppose the Peppers' neighbors help them so much? Have you ever helped someone in need?

7. How does Mr. King respond to Phronsie's gingerbread boy? What is the most thoughtful gift you've ever received?

8. How does Polly feel when she goes to stay with the Kings? Have you ever been homesick? How did you get over it?

9. Mr. King at first seems to be tough and mean, but in fact he is quite kind. Have you ever met anyone like him?

10. The Pepper children are similar in many ways, but they are also quite different. How do they differ from each other? Which Pepper are you the most like?