



Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm



*Retold from the Kate Douglas Wiggin original
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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?” 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

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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 do you think Rebecca is so excited about leaving her mother? Have you ever gone on a trip? Where did you go?

2. Mr. Cobb says that Rebecca is the oddest child he has ever met. What about Rebecca makes her strange or unusual? Have you ever met anyone like her?

3. Rebecca says of Paris, "It's the grandest place on Earth.... I can see it so clearly when I close my eyes." Do you believe that the real Paris is as beautiful as the one in her mind? What do you imagine when you close your eyes?

4. Rebecca says that she wears her dress backward to make it easier to button. Do you think this is silly or creative? Have you ever done something that other people thought was silly?

5. How is Rebecca's classroom different from school today? Do you like school? What is your favorite subject? What is your least favorite?

6. Why do you think Miranda is so against Rebecca having a pink or blue dress? Have you ever wanted something you were told you couldn't have? Did you get it?

7. Why do Rebecca's eyes well up with tears when the whole class applauds her drawing? Have you ever felt that way? What have you done that you are the most proud of?

8. Aunt Jane says of Rebecca, "I don't think she's much like the rest of us, but she's got it in her to be whatever she wants to be when she grows up." Do you agree? What do you want to do when you grow up?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

9. Why do you suppose Adam Ladd buys all of Rebecca's soap? Have you ever tried to sell anything? How did it turn out?

10. What does Miss Maxwell say the Rose of Joy is? What do you think it means to Rebecca? What does it mean to you?