



Dinner Table Book Talks

Conversational questions to promote book discussions might include:

About the Author

- What are you reading right now?
- Have you read anything else by that author?
- Have you noticed any similarities to their other books? Or books by other authors?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What is the author trying to tell us?
- What did the author have to research or know to write this book?

About the Characters

- What do you think of the main characters?
- Would you like to be friends with or be any of the characters? Why or why not?
- If you could change the behavior of a character, which one would you change? Why?
- How do the characters change in the story? What makes them change?
- Which characters are like ones from other books?
- How did the characters make you feel while you were reading the book?

About the Plot

- What was the most important part? Why?
- How did your thinking change as the story developed?
- What did you think when you read the ending? How did it make you feel?
- What is the main point of the story? Was there a lesson to be learned?
- How does this book relate to you or to our family?
- What is your favorite part? Why?
- What is your least favorite part? Why?
- Could there have been a better solution? What do you think would have been better?

Other Ideas

- Can you think of six words that would describe the setting for your story? What are they?
- If you were to visit a setting from the story, where would you choose to go? What would you pack in order to survive there?
- How would the (problem, solution, characters' actions) change if the story took place elsewhere?
- How do you think the following people would react to this story? Explain your thoughts.
 - Mom & Dad
 - Grandma & Grandpa
 - Your brother or sister
 - Mrs. Denison or Mrs. Eckert
 - Mrs. Sullivan
 - Your best friend
- What other topics would people who read this book be interested in?

