Additional Vocabulary and Comprehension Questions

Discuss After you Read

Chapters 1-2

Q: The cook thinks their father forgot about them because he hasn't seen them in three years. What do you think? [chapter 1]

Q: Use some descriptive words to describe Amanda.

A: example: hard-working, compassionate, careful of her siblings, an encourager

Chapters 3-4

Q: What does this mean? "When you lose someone it's like - like having to find your way again." [chapter 4]

Q: What does Amanda plan to do after her mother dies? [chapter 4]

A: find the children's father in America

Chapters 5-6

Q: Do you think Mistress Trippett stole Amanda's money? [chapter 6]
A: yes: even though she paid the doctor, the medical fees would not equal the price of a house; also, Amanda works hard and that should pay for her shelter and food, but Mistress Trippett pretends the children are a hardship

Q: Why must the children leave Mrs. Trippett's house? [chapter 6]

A: Amanda asks for her money, Mistress Trippett faints, and her son turns the three children out

Chapters 7-8

Q: Why does the children's father not write? [chapter 8]

A: he never learned to read or write

Chapters 10-11

Q: How does the children's dream come true? [chapter 10]

A: Dr. Crider finds them, feeds them and buys the children their tickets and supplies

Chapters 12-14

Vocabulary

Medusa: the devil doll; Medusa was one of the three Gorgons in Greek mythology, and the only mortal Gorgon. Medusa and her two sisters had writhing snakes for hair, staring eyes, hideous grins, and protruding fangs. They were so ugly that anyone who saw them turned to stone. Unlike her sisters, Medusa was beautiful in her youth, and was proud of her hair. She boasted of her beauty to Athena, who became jealous and changed her into a hideous person.

Q: What animals are on the ships? How could each of these animals help Jamestown? [chapter 14]

A: oxen and horses could help plow and clear the land; goats could provide milk; pigs and chickens could serve as food; and chickens could provide eggs

Q: What bad habit gets the children into trouble and how? [chapter 14] A: Jimmy's lie makes many people want to steal the door knocker

Chapters 15-17

Q: How does Amanda calm her siblings in the storm? [chapter 15] A: she tells them a story

Q: Why can't the children laugh after the storm? [chapter 17]
A: they feel beaten and tired with the sound of the storm in their ears still; they have been through a lot

Chapters 18-20

Q: What is the plan for rescue? Does it seem reasonable? [chapter 18] A: send a small boat to fetch a larger boat from Virginia

Q: What does Meg learn to do while in Bermuda? [chapter 19] A: play

Q: What is the fire for and why do the survivors let it go out? [chapter 19]
A: to guide the boat from Virginia; too much time passed and the boat must have sunk

Q: Why did the men quarrel? [chapter 20]

A: they did not want to build two ships, since some wanted to stay in Bermuda

Chapters 22-end

Q: What happened to the people at Jamestown? [chapter 22]

A: the English were at war with Native Americans, some were ill, and some starved; many died

Q: What is another name for "a wall made of tree trunks" that surrounds a town? [chapter 23]

A: fort