

Flight of the Puffin Read Aloud Discussion Questions



Chapter-by-Chapter Discussion Questions for *Flight of the Puffin*

A few things to keep in mind....

- 1) *Use these questions only as needed. It's always fine to just keep reading!*
- 2) *You'll also be able to access videos of these discussion questions each week.*
- 3) *Timing can be flexible. The videos will be accessible later for you to use at your convenience, as well.*
- 4) *Just to be clear, each chapter's heading includes a date (like "Libby: Monday April 30"), but that date relates to the story, not to our 2021 reality. So, you don't have to wait until April 30th to read the first chapter. ☺*

WEEK 1 ~ April 19th ~ Pages 1-42 (42 pages)

1) Libby: Monday, April 30 (Pages 1-13)

What does Libby mean when she says she's a dandelion pushing its way through a crack in the driveway? What would it take for a dandelion (or Libby) to make it through to the sunshine?

2) Jack: Monday, April 30 (Pages 14-22)

What sort of judgements do people make about places that are different from where they live? Why is that?

3) Vincent: Monday, April 30 (Pages 23-31)

Have you ever had someone make an incorrect assumption about you based on your clothes? If so, why do you think it happened? If it hasn't happened, why do you think it hasn't?

4) T: Monday, April 30 (Pages 32-33)

Where do you think T is? Who do you think Peko is? Why do you think T's chapter is different from the others?

5) Jack: Tuesday, May 1 (Pages 34-38)

What are the conflicting emotions Jack is dealing with? If an animal is eventually going to be eaten, does it matter if it has a life free of cages?

6) Libby: Tuesday, May 1 (Pages 39-42)

Make a card for yourself to help you through times when things are hard. What's it going to say?

WEEK TWO ~ April 26th ~ Pages 43-84 (41 pages)

7) Vincent: Tuesday, May 1 (Pages 43-47)

Why do you think some people see it as an insult to say someone is “like a girl?” How does that affect girls? How does that affect boys?

8) Jack: Tuesday, May 1 (Pages 48-50)

What does the line “with liberty and justice for all” in the Pledge of Allegiance mean to you? What are some actions that would uphold liberty and justice?

9) Libby: Tuesday, May 1 (Pages 51-53)

If you were going to leave an encouraging index card for someone, who would it be for? Where would you leave it? What would it say?

10) T: Tuesday, May 1 (Page 54)

Why is Peko so important to T?

11) Jack: Wednesday, May 2 (Pages 55-58)

Why do Jack and his family not trust the new consolidated school board? Would you if you were in their shoes?

12) Vincent: Wednesday, May 2 (Pages 59-62)

Did Vincent made the right decision by wearing his puffin shirt again? Why or why not?

13) T: Wednesday, May 2 (Page 63)

If “no one cares,” how does that make life harder? How does it make it easier?

14) Libby: Wednesday, May 2 (Page 64-74)

Why do Libby’s parents think they’re good parents? How would Libby respond?

15) Jack: Thursday, May 3 (Pages 75-77)

Why does Jack feels like the kids at school need to act like an army?

16) T: Thursday, May 3 (Pages 78-79)

How do you think T is finding the strength to keep going?

17) Vincent: Friday, May 4 (Pages 80-84)

Was Vincent was right to run away?

WEEK THREE ~ May 3rd ~ Pages 85-137 (52 pages)

18) Jack: Saturday, May 5 (Pages 85-90)

How has Jack's memory of Alex's death shaped him as a person?

19) T: Sunday, May 6 (Pages 91-92)

How do you think it would affect a person if their parent refused to accept them for who they are?

20) Vincent: Monday, May 7 (Pages 93-100)

At your school, how are self-preservation and "being yourself" connected? Do they work together? Do they compete with each other?

21) Libby: Monday, May 7 (Pages 101-110)

Why is it hard for bullies to go with the flow and let people wear/do/be what they want? What does it take to get a bully to change?

22) Vincent: Tuesday, May 8 (Pages 111-113)

If you were Vincent's friend, what would you say to him right now?

23) T: Tuesday, May 8 (Pages 114-115)

Do you think the relationships we have with family members follow rules of logic? Why or why not?

24) Jack: Wednesday, May 9 (Pages 116-126)

Does Jack have good intentions by going to the school board meeting? Which is more important: his intentions or the results of his actions? Why?

25) Libby: Wednesday, May 9 (Pages 127-130)

Do you think it'll be possible for Libby to resist the pressure to become like her parents? Why or why not.

26) Vincent: Thursday, May 10 (Pages 131-135)

Why do words from a stranger have such an effect on Vincent?

27) T: Thursday, May 10 (Pages 136-137)

What role do strangers play in T's life right now?

WEEK FOUR ~ May 10th ~ Pages 138-183 (46 pages)

28) Vincent: Thursday, May 10 (Pages 138-142)

How are each of the characters in the book affected by expectations around gender? What kind of gender “box” is each supposed to fit in? What happens if they don’t? Does your school has its own gender boxes?

Also: Do you think it was okay for Vincent to ask T about their gender? Why or why not?

29) T: Thursday, May 10 (Pages 143-145)

When do you think T has needed to show themselves they can be strong?

30) Jack: Thursday, May 10 (Pages 146-154)

Why do you think the bird is so important to Jack?

31) Vincent: Friday, May 11 (Pages 155-162)

What do you think Vincent is going to do with the index card? What would you do?

32) T: Sunday, May 13 (Page 163)

What would Vincent say about two being enough? Do you think he’d be right? Why or why not?

33) Jack: Monday, May 14 (Pages 164-172)

Why do you think it took a note from a stranger for Jack to realize something about his own family?

34) Libby: Monday, May 14 (Pages 173-177)

For you, what are some things you’re told that aren’t worth listening to? Which are worth listening to?

35) Jack: Monday, May 14 (Pages 178-183)

What are all the ways that Jack and Libby are different? What do they have in common?

WEEK FIVE ~ May 17th ~ Pages 184-229 (45 pages)

36) T: Monday, May 14 (Page 184)

When have you found that a person's words don't match their actions? What kind of actions prove a person is open-minded?

37) Vincent: Tuesday, May 15 (Pages 185-192)

Stand up. Try out having your feet wide with your hands on your hips. How do you feel? Declare: "I am me, and that is awesome." Are you convincing? Why or why not?

38) Jack: Tuesday, May 15 (Pages 193-199)

If you were going to write a letter to the editor about a change you want to see in your school, what would it be about? How would you convince people?

39) Libby: Wednesday, May 16 (Pages 200-205)

What do you think it'd be like if we could see the consequences of our actions as they ripple out? How would that change things?

40) Vincent: Wednesday, May 16 (Pages 206-208)

Why do you think T might not feel comfortable going to a regular homeless shelter? Are there organizations in your area that would be a safe place for someone like T to get support?

41) Libby: Wednesday, May 16 (Pages 209-212)

What are some ways our understanding of a person can change when we find out more about them? Has that ever happened to you? Are there things people don't know about you that would help them understand you better?

42) Jack: Thursday, May 17 (Pages 213-218)

Why doesn't Jack question himself when Sturgis disagrees? Would that be true of other people? Why or why not?

43) The End of the Book (Pages 219-229)

If you were going to send out love postcards into the world, where would you send them?