

Book Group Discussion Questions for *Dinoteens #1: Gear and Claw*

Use these questions to promote discussion and critical thinking while reading *Dinoteens #1: Gear and Claw*. The questions are designed to be open-ended, which means that there are no right or wrong answers. Encourage students to back up their statements with evidence from the text. You can also post the sentence frames to help students articulate their responses.

The questions are broken into three sections: Chapters 1-6, Chapters 7-18, and Chapters 19-24. Be sure to look at the questions in order. **The questions in the last section contain major spoilers for the end of the book!**

Sentence Frames to Encourage Student Discussion:

- I predict that... because...
- I agree/disagree with _____ because...
- I wonder about...
- I would like to add on to what _____ had to say.
- I don't understand _____. Can someone explain?
- My question is...
- One page ____, it says... This makes me think that...

Discussion Questions

Chapters 1-6

1. Who do you think is the main character of the book? Why do you think that?
2. After the explosion, Stacy and her friends go into the woods to see what happened. Was that a good decision? What would you have done if you were there?
3. Do you think the strange, feathered creatures are safe, or dangerous? Why?
4. Why do you think the author included the attack of the giant squid?
5. At the end of this section, Mickey explains why he believes the creatures are dinosaurs. Do you think he's correct? Why or why not?

Chapters 7-18

1. Who is your favorite character? Why?
2. Why do you think Colonel Hess decides to help Stacy and her friends return to their own time?
3. After running from the Albertosaurus, BP claims that he is not a coward. Do you agree with him? Why or why not?
4. Compare Stacy's actions when the Pteranodon hits the bridge to her actions during the giant squid attack. How has she grown since the beginning of the book?
5. When the Iron Claw Troodons are arrested, Stacy and her friends are left without the help and protection of Colonel Hess. What do you think they will do?

Chapters 19-24

1. How has Stacy changed since the beginning of the book? What do you think caused her to change?
2. Consider what you have learned about Troodon society. In what ways are the Troodons similar to humans? In what ways are they different?
3. Why do you think BP sided with the Dinoteens against Colonel Hess? Do you think he made the right choice?
4. Is Colonel Hess evil? Why or why not?
5. What do you think will happen after the end of the book, now that the Dinoteens have made it back to their own time?