

Inga's Amazing Ideas
Discussion Questions/ Story Starters

Easy to use for language arts, social studies, or integrated with science

1. Imagine that you arrive at a new place as Inga does, alone. How would you feel? What decisions would you have to make? How would you put your life together?
2. People, then, were able to simply choose a child to take in. What do you think of that system? Any good results? Any bad results?
3. At the beginning Mr. Duffy is quite grumpy. Mrs. Duffy is sweeter. How do you think they might change during the story? What would make them change?
4. Inga has done a nice repair on her carpetbag. What does this show you about her character?
5. Looking at Inga as she arrives, how do you think the other children in the town will treat her? Why do you think so? Can she do anything about it?
6. When Inga and Mrs. Duffy buy second-hand dresses at Kelly's store, she insists on paying. What does this tell you about her character?
7. When the new apple peeler arrives at the Duffy home, Inga understands how to mount it. How does this affect Mr. Duffy's opinion of her?
8. Sometimes the kids at school make fun of Inga and misunderstand her. What does she do about it? Is that a good way to deal with trivial insults? Why or why not?
9. When you first read about Inga's concern for Cyril, what do you think she will do for him? Does her plan make sense? Why or why not?
10. When Inga and the boys build the cart, why do they race it right away? Why doesn't Inga stop them? Who is to blame for the crash? Is that fair?
11. Do you think Emmet and Tom were good friends to Inga? Why/why not?
12. Who do you think is smarter, Inga or Emmet or Tom? Explain why you think so.