



**Regarding the Fountain by Kate Klise**  
**Discussion Questions**

Directions: Read the book with your child and use the questions to increase his or her understanding of the book's message.

1. Summarize the overall plot of the book in your own words. Think about the **setting**, the **main characters**, the **problem**, the **solution**, and the **conclusion**.
2. When Flo Waters introduces herself, she writes, "I don't have a phone. Hate the silly things." (p.3). Along those lines, what types of writing or documents does the author use to tell the story? Which documents had you heard of or used before? Which were new to you?
3. *Walter "Wally" Russ, Sam N., Sally Mander, Minnie O...* Did you notice a pattern or theme in the characters' names? Explain the pattern using a few more names as examples.
4. The style of this book allows us to learn a little bit about each character and how they approach the issue of the fountain. Using these bits of information, where do you see examples of the following themes in the story?
  - a. Generosity
  - b. Honesty
  - c. Acceptance
5. Dry Creek is a small town with a lot going on! What does it look like to be part of a community in Dry Creek? Would you want to live there? Why or why not?
6. In your opinion, who had the most interesting idea for the fountain? If you had to design a water fountain at your school, what would your design look like? Sketch some ideas below (or on the back) and bring them to our book club for a fun activity!

**Extra Activity: Who's who?** Match each character with the correct description.

1. Florence Waters: \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Shelly and Tad Poll: \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Sally Mander: \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Lily and Paddy: \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Delbert "Dee" Eel: \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Gil: \_\_\_\_\_
  7. Sam N.: \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Walter Russ: \_\_\_\_\_
  9. Goldie Fisch: \_\_\_\_\_
  10. Minnie O.: \_\_\_\_\_
- A. The principal of Dry Creek middle school.
  - B. A teacher at Dry Creek Middle School. His students create ideas for the new fountain.
  - C. A fountain designer who travels a lot for unique inspiration.
  - D. The nice secretary of Dry Creek middle school. She writes letters for the principal.
  - E. These two suggest that the fountain should be big enough to splash around in.
  - F. These two suggest that the fountain should have chocolate milk and root beer.
  - G. This student is the smartest in Sam N's class, and she suggests fish in the fountain.
  - H. This student suggests a loop-the-loop fountain.
  - I. Owner of the town swimming pool and one of the culprits behind the faulty fountain.
  - J. Water Company President; one of the culprits behind the faulty fountain.