



Before & After Family Discussion Guide

Welcome

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time chronicles a young boy's journey of discovery. We hope that you are inspired by the play and will learn more from each other through the guiding questions. Take a glimpse at the guide before seeing the play, and after use the guide to lead the discussion between you and your family members and friends.

Audience Expectations

Going to see a Broadway show is an incredibly thrilling experience. For a sneak peak, check out this video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mr8P7IEI2M4>. In order to enhance that experience, here are some things to keep in mind.

- Take your seat: Be sure to get to your seat in time to ready yourself for the journey you'll take with this play
- Turn off your cell phone: The messages and texts can wait until later – sink into the world of the play completely!
- Get ready to watch carefully: The wonderful thing about live theater is that it's happening right there before you! Be sure to soak it all in
- Let the actors do the talking: Feel free to laugh at the jokes and be moved by the drama, but save your commentary for your conversation for after the show
- Show your appreciation: When the show is over, applaud for the actors and wait for the curtain call to be over before leaving your seat. To show them your highest praise, give them a standing ovation

Engaging Questions

Use the following questions to discuss characters, themes, and other elements of the play on the subway, around the dinner table, and elsewhere:

1. Christopher says that he finds people confusing. Why do you think this is so? Do you sometimes find people confusing? In what way?
2. For Christopher, a "Good Day" is seeing four red cars in a row. What makes a "Good Day" for you?
3. Throughout the play Christopher uses phrases and routines to help him accomplish things. What are some of the phrases and routines that help you get through your day?
4. What about Christopher's character and personality do you think makes him enjoy detective work so much?
5. Why do you think Christopher keeps doing his detective work after his father demands that he stop?
6. Siobhan helps narrate the story and often appears to help Christopher through tough situations. Who do you think could help you through challenging situations and narrate your story?
7. What are the different and dangerous obstacles Christopher faces on his journey to London?
8. What do you think about Christopher's idea that looking at the vastness of the stars makes a person's problems seem "negligible"?
9. Compare and contrast the attitudes and strategies Christopher's parents have in interacting to him.
10. How do you think the stylized movements of the cast and the technical elements helped you to experience the world as Christopher does?
11. Why do you think the playwright chose to end the play with Christopher's question: "Does that mean I can do anything?"