



## MEETING #2: TOGETHER AGAIN

**It's Round 2 of the Girls Leadership Parent & Daughter Book Club!** If you're joining us for the first time, **welcome.**

Our October Discussion Guide for *The Year of the Dog* contains some success tips and community building activities, so we recommend that you read that one first. You can do the Mad Libs and interview activities from October, then proceed with the discussion for *Rickshaw Girl* as outlined in this guide.

If your group is meeting for the second time, this process will hopefully feel a little more familiar and comfortable. The second meeting builds upon the first. As you come together, you will get to know each other even better and start to build a shared vocabulary around the books that you've read and discussed.

At this meeting, a different parent-daughter pair should take on the role of facilitator. Even if your group has decided to meet in the same place each month, the role of facilitator will rotate so that everyone has a turn leading the discussion. **Whoever is acting as facilitator should print and read this guide before the meeting, and make sure that the group has any necessary materials.**



## MEETING #2: TOGETHER AGAIN

1. Munch and Mingle  20 minutes      Materials = snacks

Give about 20 minutes for mingling and maybe eating. When it's time to start the first activity, make sure everyone is seated in a way that they can see everyone else.

Please ask that everyone sit next to at least one person that she does not know well. (Parent-daughter pairs do not have to sit next to each other.)

2. Check-In Question  5 minutes      Materials = None

How is Book Club going for everyone in month 2?

Challenges and successes?

If there are hurdles, bring them up and see if the group can brainstorm a solution.

### 3. Thumbs Up - Thumbs Down



15 minutes

Materials = this page

The facilitator will read these statements. Everyone will listen to the statement and then give a thumb up to agree or a thumb down to disagree (no words). The facilitator can pause after each statement for a moment so people can look around, but the group should not respond verbally or non-verbally.

(In other words, please don't point, chuckle, or make a face about your own or anyone else's answer.)

1. I like chocolate.
2. I like learning about far away places.
3. Reading comes easy to me.
4. Sometimes I feel shy about making new friends.
5. When I make a mistake, it's hard to apologize.
6. I have wished that I had been born different.
7. I like being a girl.

Before moving on to the discussion, the facilitator could pause here and ask how that activity felt or what they noticed.

#### 4. Book Discussion!



45 minutes

Materials = A copy of the book, this guide

One way we people get to know each other (and readers get to know characters) is by focusing on similarities, as we did last month. Another is focusing on differences. By acknowledging the similarities and differences between us, we deepen our understanding of the world, grow our compassion, and celebrate a wider range of perspectives.

As the members of your club read this book, everyone - parents and girls included - should have marked or noted a spot in the story that sparked her curiosity. This could be a surprising part, or a part that made the reader want to know more. Give some time for everyone to share a part of the book that sparked her curiosity. **No need to go around in a circle.** People can speak up in whatever order they wish.

Remember, conversation that develops naturally is the goal. While you don't want people cutting each other off, it's great if people want to respond to each other's statements with connections or questions. As facilitator, make sure that each group member has an opportunity to share if she wants.

#### 4. Book Discussion!



45 minutes

Materials = book

Once everyone has shared a part of the book that sparked curiosity, you could open up the conversation with an open-ended question, like *“Did anyone notice another part that was especially interesting?”* There are endless variations on this question; you might ask if readers found a part that was surprising, confusing, funny, amazing. Your club might ask everyone to share her favorite part of the book.

*Book Club Tip: Don't feel that you have to keep the conversation going without pause. Silence can be useful. It give people -especially shy folks - time to consider their words.*

*Sometimes people panic when the room gets quiet, and they want to fill the void. In your group, try to model being okay with a few moments of silence.*

Many clubs benefit from having a list of discussion questions to prompt deep conversation. **Use whichever of the following questions you want, in whichever order works for your club.**

## *Rickshaw Girl* Discussion Questions:

- What does Naima's family expect of her as she gets older? What does your family expect of you as you get older? Do you think getting older is hard?
- What does Naima think of the different rules for girls and boys? How do you know what she thinks? What do you think?
- What word would you use to describe how Naima feels after damaging her father's rickshaw?
- Naima wishes she had been born a boy. Have you ever wished you had been born someone else?
- What does Naima plan to buy with her earnings? What do her plans tell us about the kind of person she is?
- Why do you think the rickshaw painter might not have given Naima a chance to work if she'd been a boy?

## 5. Closing



5 minutes

Materials = none

Before saying good-bye to your club for two whole months, ask people to consider the question: What can we learn from Pacy or Naima that we could practice in our own lives?

Give a moment for people to consider this, then give the opportunity to share. Judging from the tone of the group and how well you know each other, people could turn to their neighbor to discuss in pairs or share with the whole group.

*The next book club meeting won't be until January.*

*Stay tuned for the book to be announced in December! Even though it's far away, it might be a good idea to get out your calendars and put your January meeting on the books.*

Don't forget to take a picture of your book club meeting. Tell us where you are, what your club name is, and tag Girls Leadership or email [dorothy@girlsleadership.org](mailto:dorothy@girlsleadership.org) so we can see your photo!

We can't wait to check out all the clubs in action.