What is this book about?

This helpful how-to guide explores the most pressing question of all: What is a question? Discover what questions do, how they work, and why we use them. Sometimes a question is rude! Why? Sometimes a question is actually a comment! What’s the difference? Above all, Did You Burp? encourages kids to keep asking questions—the beginning of learning about the world.

Who wrote this book?

April Pulley Sayre is the award-winning author of more than sixty-five nonfiction books, including Trout Are Made of Trees; Thank You, Earth; The Slowest Book Ever; and the Geisel Honor book Vulture View. Each year she speaks to more than 15,000 students, who ask her lots and lots of questions.

Who drew these pictures?

Leeza Hernandez is the illustrator of several books for children, including Eat Your Math Homework, Eat Your Science Homework, Eat Your U.S. History Homework, and Never Play Music Right Next to the Zoo. She is also the author and illustrator of Dog Gone! and Cat Napped!
Pre-Reading Discussion
Define some terms as a class:
• Question
• Answer
• Source
• Context
• Comment
Write these definitions on the board, to be revisited after reading.

Show students the cover and read the title aloud. Ask them to guess what the book will be about. Then read the copy on the back cover. Do they want to make new guesses, or was their first guess probably right?

Catch the Question!
Ask students to write a question mark on a sheet of paper. Play a brief section of dialogue from a children’s TV show, such as Sesame Street, and ask students to raise their question marks whenever a character asks a question.

Discuss the exercise as a class: How did students know when a question was being asked?

Play the section of dialogue again and ask students to pick one question to write down. Invite students to briefly share their chosen question with the class or a partner and explain what they like or find interesting about this question.

Optionally, play the dialogue again in a different language which is spoken in your classroom or area, such as Spanish. Can students still pick out questions?

Answer Hunt
Gather icebreaker questions from the class, such as “What’s your favorite animal?” or “How many people are in your family?” Write them on slips of paper and put them in a hat. Each student then draws a question and tries to gather as many answers from their classmates as they can in ten minutes.
Discussion

Revisit the pre-reading definitions. Is there new information to add? Do definitions need to be changed? As a class or in small groups, discuss the following:

• What do people use the word “who” for?
• What do people use the word “when” for?
• What do people use the word “where” for?
• What do people use the word “why” for?
• What do people use the word “how” for?
• What’s the difference between a comment and a question?
• There are a lot of speech bubbles in this book. What is a speech bubble? What does it do?

Writing on the Wall

Cut a large sheet of butcher paper and help your students write three questions that they want to ask the whole school. Hang these questions outside your classroom or in another gathering area of your school, such as the cafeteria or the library, with writing tools available for students, staff, and teachers to reply.

Optionally, take the paper down after a month and talk together as a class about the answers you received. Are any of them surprising? Does anyone have a favorite answer?

Create a class newsletter sharing these insights and highlighted answers with the school community.

Socratic Switcheroo

Your students have probably noticed that teachers ask them a lot of questions. Here’s a chance for them to switch things up! Discuss with your class:

• What is an interview?
• How do you prepare for an interview?
• How do you respectfully conduct an interview?

Brainstorm a list of ten to fifteen questions they would like to ask you together, using the book as a guide. Print these questions out to give to the class or write them up on the board.

Then be interviewed! Ask students to practice etiquette by greeting you with a handshake or friendly wave at the beginning of the interview and thanking you with a similar gesture at the end. Students can rotate asking questions, or an adult volunteer can read them to you.

Community Engagement

Invite a local person of interest (a business owner, a park ranger, a scientist, an artist, a musician, etc.) to come visit your class for an interview. Follow the same interview process described above.
Can you guess the missing pieces of this conversation?

**Leeza:** Hi! I’m Leeza. ________________________________________________________?

**Jordan:** I’m Jordan. Are you new?

**Leeza:** __________. This place is way bigger than my old school. I’m lost!

**Jordan:** Where are you going?

**Leeza:** The cafeteria. ______________________________________________________?

**Jordan:** Today’s pizza day! Do you like pizza?

**Leeza:** __________! Pizza is my favorite. __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________?

**Jordan:** I like pepperoni. My sister thinks it’s too spicy. Do you have sisters?

**Leeza:** __________, but I have a brother. He’s too little to eat pizza. Is this the cafeteria?

**Jordan:** Yes! ________________________________________________________________?

**Leeza:** Yeah, I’d like that! Let’s sit over by the big window.
Here are some suggested answers for the Dialogue Detective worksheet:

Leeza: Hi! I’m Leeza. __Who are you/What’s your name__?

Jordan: I’m Jordan. Are you new?

Leeza: __Yes___. This place is way bigger than my old school. I’m lost!

Jordan: Where are you going?

Leeza: The cafeteria. __What’s for lunch/What are they cooking/What is that smell__?

Jordan: Today’s pizza day! Do you like pizza?

Leeza: __Yes!__ Pizza is my favorite. __Do you like pizza/What kind of pizza do you like/What’s your favorite?__

Jordan: I like pepperoni. My sister thinks it’s too spicy. Do you have sisters?

Leeza: __No___. but I have a brother. He’s too little to eat pizza. Is this the cafeteria?

Jordan: Yes! __Do you want to eat together/Do you want to sit together?__

Leeza: Yeah, I’d like that! Let’s sit over by the big window.
Here are four locations. What sort of questions would you ask there?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grocery Store</td>
<td>Zoo</td>
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