

Brought to you by the member libraries
of the Mid-Hudson Library System



Discussion Questions: ***The Tale of Despereaux*** by Kate DiCamillo

Bookbrowse.com

1. How is Despereaux different from the other mice?
2. What happens when Despereaux's sister Merlot tries to teach him to nibble paper? How does this affect the rest of the story?
3. Why does the King tell the Princess not to speak with Despereaux? When Despereaux leaves the Princess, he says to her, "I honor you." Why?
4. Why does the Mouse Council call Despereaux before them? What is their decision?
5. Who is Gregory, and how does he help Despereaux?
6. Who is Miggery Sow? How does she come to be at the castle?
7. Who are Boticelli and Roscuro? Why does Boticelli tell Roscuro to take the red cloth from Miggery Sow's father? What does Roscuro believe the cloth will do?
8. What does the Queen love more than anything in the world? Why is it banned from the kingdom?
9. What is Roscuro's plan for the Princess? What does he think he will gain from this plan?
10. What do Miggery Sow and the Princess Pea have in common?
11. Who is the threadmaster, and what is his job? How does he end up helping Despereaux?
12. When Despereaux comes upon Cook in the kitchen, what is she doing? Why is Cook afraid?
13. When Despereaux goes down into the dungeon to save the Princess, what four things do the rats smell? Why?

14. Which two characters lose their tails in the story, and how?

15. Does Despereaux succeed in his quest to save the Princess? What is the outcome of his quest?

16. What does the author hope the reader will find in the story?