

Discussion Questions for *The Monstore* by Tara Lazar

Teachers, please use and adapt these questions to fit the needs of your classroom.

The questions are inspired by Stephanie Harvey and Anne Goudvis's *Strategies that Work*, and allow for practice with the following reading strategies:

Making Connections
Questioning
Visualizing
Inferring
Determining Importance
Synthesizing

Pre-Reading Questions

What do you think will happen in this story? (Inferring)

I wonder why it's called *The Monstore*. (Questioning)

During Reading Questions

Why did Zack go to The Monstore? (Determining Importance)

Has there ever been a time in your life when you purchased something you regretted?

What did you do? (Making Connections)

How do you visualize the store? Is it busy, slow, clean, dirty, loud, etc? (Visualizing)

On the second page of the story, there's a monster that's "1/2 off." I wonder why.

(Questioning)

In the middle of the book, there's a picture of the manager dangling a steak over one of the monster's tanks. What do you think is happening? How can this image reflect the theme of the book? (Inferring)

At what point did you realize what the manager was doing? What clues did you put together to form that opinion? (Synthesizing)

Post-Reading Questions

What do you think will happen to the monsters at the end of the book? Why do you think that? (Questioning)

Why do you think Zack helped his sister with the tiara? (Determining Importance)

At what point did you realize that Zack was going to buy more monsters? What clues helped you come to this conclusion? (Synthesizing)

What do you think the author's purpose was when writing this book? (Inferring)