

## Discussion Questions

Why do you think the plain bellied Sneetches felt badly about themselves?

Why do you think the plain bellied Sneetches wanted stars on their bellies?

Why do you think the plain bellied Sneetches allowed the star bellied Sneetches to treat them so badly?

What do you think might have happened if a star bellied Sneetch had taken a stand and told the other star bellied Sneetches that what they were doing was wrong? Do you think other star bellied Sneetches would have acted differently? Why or why not?

Once the plain bellied Sneetches got stars on their bellies, why do you think the star bellied Sneetches didn't want stars on their own bellies?

Besides the stars, do you think there was a difference between the star and plain bellied Sneetches? If yes, what would that difference be?

## The Theme of *The Sneetches*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *The Sneetches*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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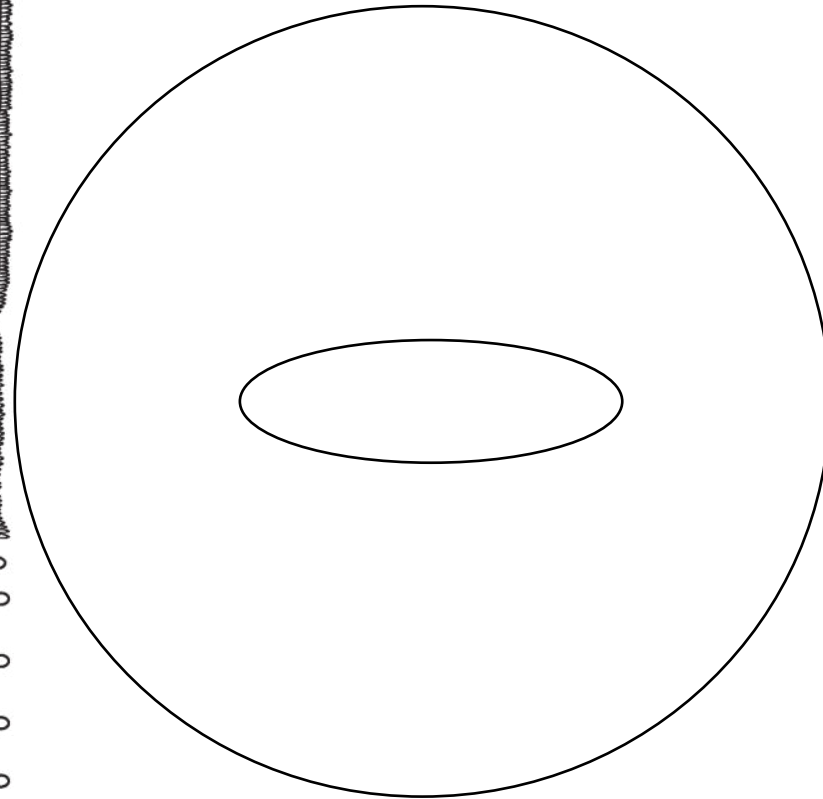
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## Main Idea of *The Sneetches*



## Renaming *The Sneetches*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *The Sneetches*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

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## Discussion Questions

What do you think Dr. Seuss meant when he said a person is a person no matter how small?

Why do you think Horton was so determined to help the Whos even though the other animals were making fun of him?

What do the animals think they will accomplish by roping and caging Horton?

What do the animals think will happen if they hid the dust speck so Horton can't find it?

Why does the kangaroo tell Horton that she didn't hear any voices and he didn't either? Why does she think he didn't hear any voices?

Just because you think you know something, does that mean everyone else has agree? How do you know if somebody knows what you know?

The Whos are finally heard. Is hearing believing? Do you have to hear, or see, or feel something to believe it or know it's true?

## The Theme of *Horton Hears a Who*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *Horton Hears a Who*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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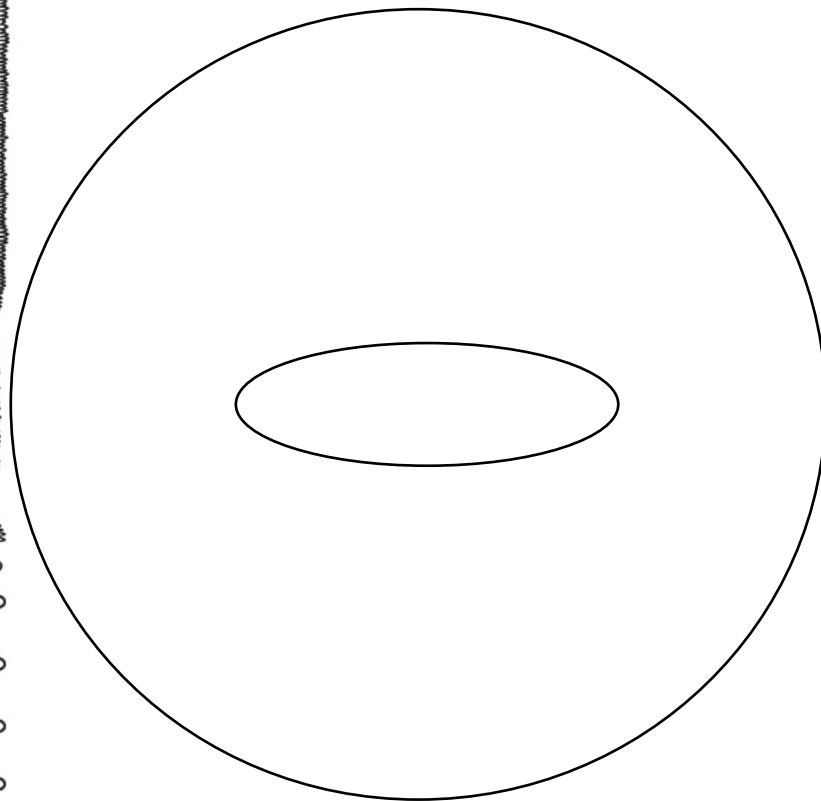
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## Main Idea of *Horton Hears a Who*



## Renaming *Horton Hears a Who*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *Horton Hears a Who*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

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## Discussion Questions

Why do you think the Zooks and Yooks did not get along?

What do you think caused this conflict to get worse?

At the end of the book Grandpa and VanItch are ready to drop Big-Boy Bommeroos on each other's homes. One of the Big-Boy Boomeroots will destroy everything that is not safely underground. Should VanItch drop a Big-Boy Boomeroot on the Zooks if Grandpa drops one on the Yooks even though it won't bring back any of Yooks' homes?

When VanItch shot the sling shot and broke Grandpa's Snick-Berry Switch, would it have right for Grandpa to go to war against VanItch?

If Grandpa dropped the Bitsy Big-Boy Boomeroot and destroyed all of the Yooks' homes, would Grandpa have been responsible?

What do you think the Zooks and Yooks could have done differently to prevent this conflict?

## The Theme of *The Butter Battle Book*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *The Butter Battle Book*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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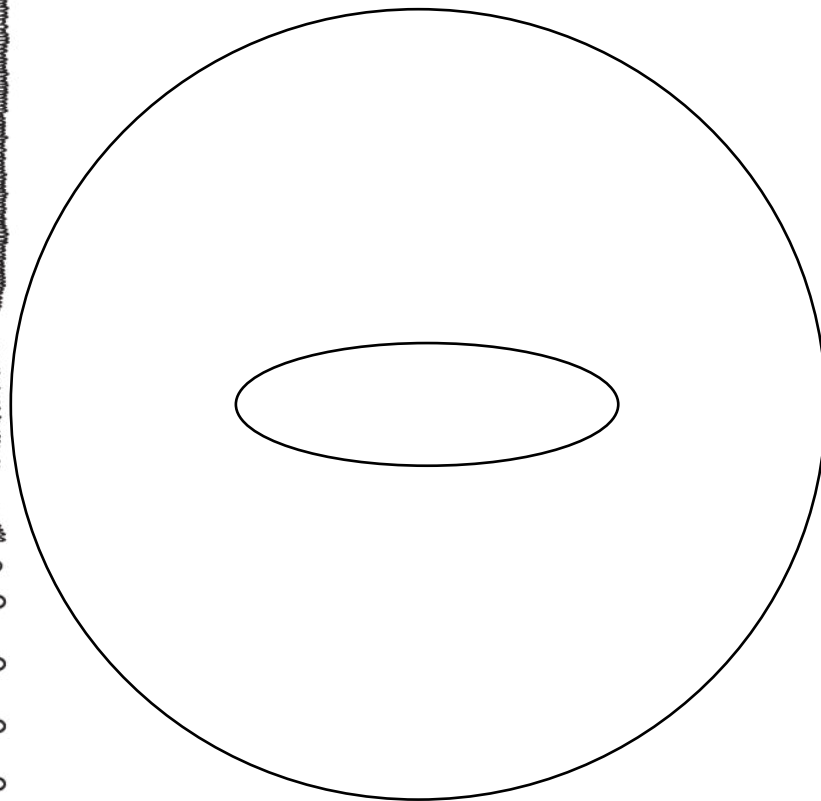
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## Main Idea of *The Butter Battle Book*



## Renaming *The Butter Battle Book*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *The Butter Battle Book*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

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## Discussion Questions

Why does the Narrator not eat green eggs and ham?

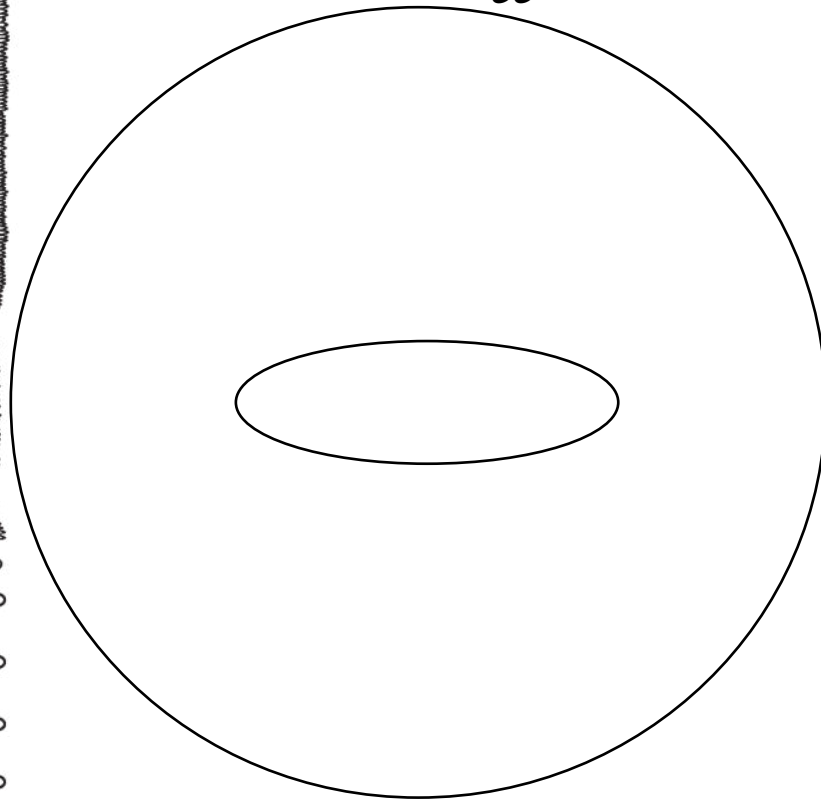
Sam-I-Am gives the Narrator a lot of options to eat his green eggs and ham; he gives him choices, about where to eat and who to eat with? Is it possible to like something in one environment or with someone, but not like it in another? (For example, have you ever really liked a film in the cinema, but when you buy it on DVD, it is not as good?)

The Narrator claims, he does not like green eggs and ham, even though he has never tried them. Do people in real life offer opinions about things, even if they have never experienced them? Why do they do this? Do you have to experience something to decide whether you like or dislike it?

Is it possible to form opinions and ideas about things with having tried it?

If you have not experienced something, what do you need to do in order to form an opinion about it? Is it enough to base your opinions on what other people think?

## Main Idea of *Green Eggs and Ham*



## The Theme of *Green Eggs and Ham*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *Green Eggs and Ham*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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## Renaming *Green Eggs and Ham*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *Green Eggs and Ham*?

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## Discussion Questions

- What was the source of King Yertle's authority?
- Why do you think Yertle the Turtle thought he was superior to the other turtles?
- Why did the other turtles obey his commands?
- Did King Yertle have the authority to act the way he did?
- Did Yertle use his power responsibly?
- What do you think the other turtles could have done to prevent such a dictatorship?

## The Theme of *Yertle the Turtle*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *Yertle the Turtle*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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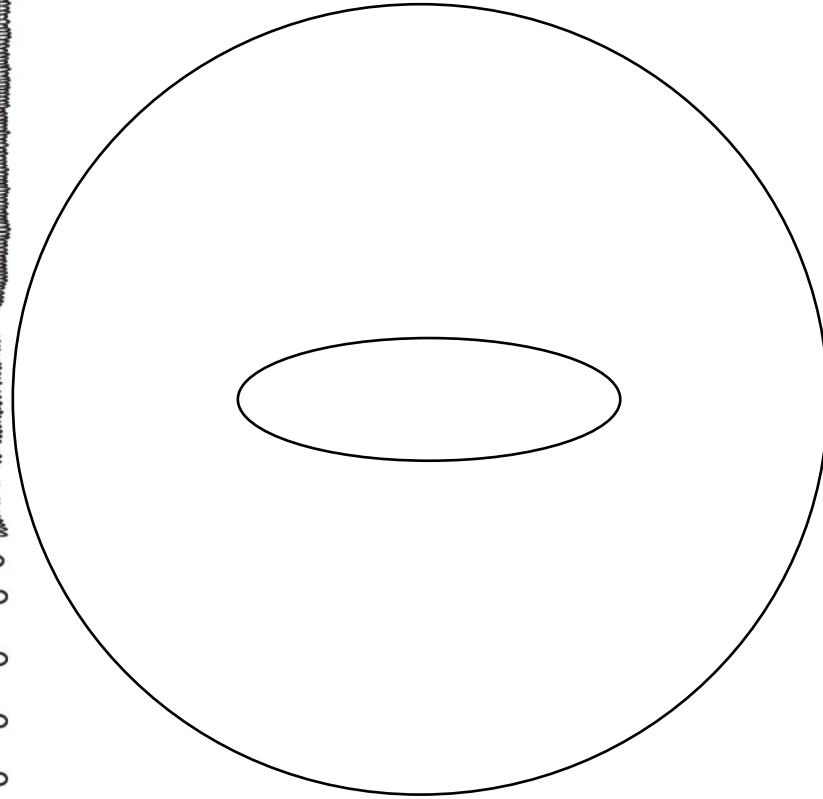
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## Main Idea of *Yertle the Turtle*



## Renaming *Yertle the Turtle*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *Yertle the Turtle*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

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## Discussion Questions

Was it harmful when the Once-ler cut down the first tree? If so, who, or what did it harm?

The Lorax claims that it was harmful for the Once-ler to cut down the tree. Are trees the kinds of things that can be harmed? Can anything not be harmed?

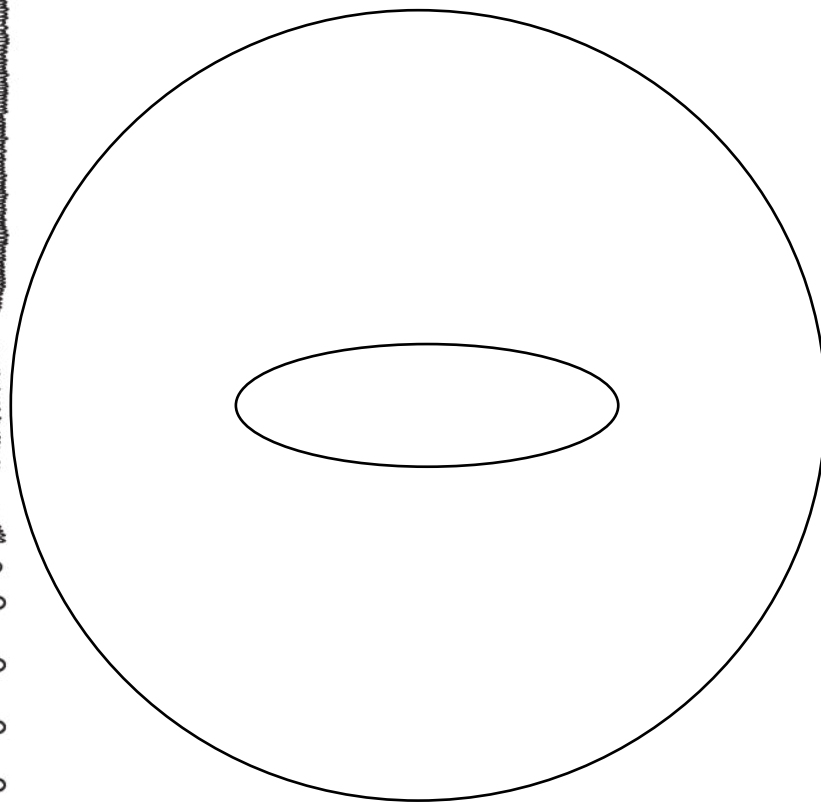
Why do the Lorax and the Once-ler disagree on this? Who do you agree with?

Now that the Once-ler is cutting down lots of trees, is this harmful? Why is cutting down one tree ok, but cutting down many trees harmful?

How are the problems for the Bar-ba-loots, Swomee-Swans, and Humming Fish all related to the Once-ler cutting down Truffula Trees? Can the same thing happen in real life?

The Once-ler says that he didn't mean to cause the harm he caused. Does not meaning to cause harm make you less responsible? How do you take responsibility for the things you have harmed? Do we ever have a responsibility to repair the harm someone else has caused? Why or why not?

## Main Idea of *The Lorax*



## The Theme of *The Lorax*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *The Lorax*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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## Renaming *The Lorax*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *The Lorax*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

## Discussion Questions

Why did the Grinch hate Christmas?

Why did the Grinch hate the Whos?

Which part of the Grinch's feelings about the Whos do you think influenced how he felt about Christmas?

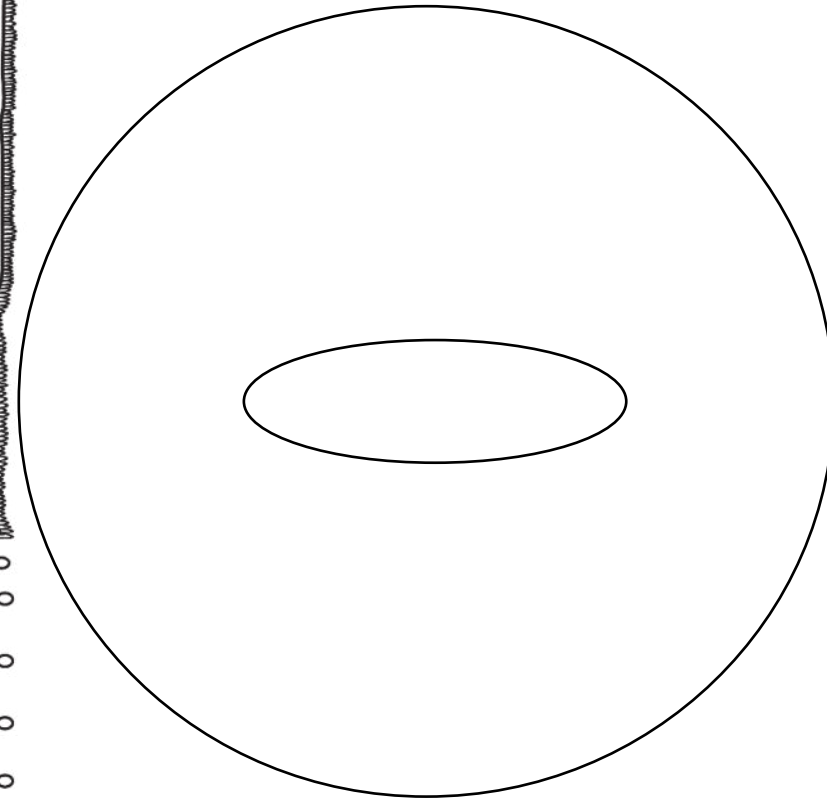
What joy could the Grinch possibly get from taking the Whos' stockings, toys, food, and decorations?

Why had Christmas still come to Who-ville without all the ribbons, tags, packages, boxes or bags that are all part of the happy holiday?

How did the Whos manage the grief caused by the loss of Christmas?

How did the Whos' actions, when they found their Christmas was gone, influence the Grinch?

## Main Idea of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*



## The Theme of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

What is Dr. Seuss' message in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?

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What evidence do you have that this is the theme of the story?

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## Renaming *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

Based on your discussion and digging into the text, what do you think would be a good title for *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?

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Why do you think this would be a good title?

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