



I Hate Doing Dishes

Essential Question:

Does the girl in the story like doing dishes?

Read about a little girl gets out of doing dishes and gets closer to her Mom.

When I was a little girl, I hated doing the dishes. My brother and I would take turns. When it got to my turn, I would try to get out of it.

My excuse was that I had homework to do. I did not have time. Homework was much more important than dirty dishes.

My mother would tell me to get out my homework. I would sit at the kitchen table and do it. If I needed help, she would stop and help me.

I often finished my homework before Mom finished the dishes. She cleaned the sink. She cleaned the counter top. She wiped down everything. She did dishes differently than I did. And, it took more time.

We did not have a dishwasher. So she stacked the dishes to dry beside the sink.

Mom and I would always talk while she did the dishes and I did my homework. We would talk about my homework. We would talk about school. We would talk about shopping. We would talk about everything.

When I was done with my homework, Mom was ready to put the dishes away. I always helped. It wasn't like doing real dishes. I guess because we talked.

Now I am older and have children of my own. My children and I visit my Mom. But mother and I do not use her new dishwasher. We wash dishes by hand. And we still talk.

1. What does this sentence mean? "When it got to my turn, I would try to get out of it."
 - A. The girl tried to get someone else to do the dishes. ☐
 - B. The girl washed the dishes happily. ☐
 - C. The girl tried to get her grandmother to do the dishes. ☐
 - D. The girl tried to put off doing the dishes until her homework was finished. ☐
2. In the story, the little girls says that her mother cleaned everything, like the counters, sink and appliances. Why didn't her mother expect her to clean the counters and appliances?
 - A. It would take the little girl too long.. ☐
 - B. Mom was faster at it.. ☐
 - C. The little girl was too short to reach the countertops. ☐
 - D. All of the above. ☐
3. Why did the little girl's mother allow her to get out of doing the dishes?
 - A. Her homework was important. ☐
 - B. She helped with the dishes anyways. ☐
 - C. Talking talking between mother and daughter is important. ☐
 - D. All of the above. ☐
4. Find the word or words in the story that means "reason."
 - A. homework ☐
 - B. no dishwasher ☐
 - C. excuse ☐
 - D. by hand ☐

5. What is the **most important** thing about doing homework in the kitchen with Mom?

- A. Mom could help her with her homework. ☐
- B. The little girl and her mother had time to talk to each other. ☐
- C. The girls could help put dishes away. ☐
- D. Talk about school. ☐

6. The main character of the story is the little girl. But she changes age at the end. What are the two ages that of the main character as she appears in the beginning and end of the story?

- A. Younger than four **and** after college. ☐
- B. Ten or younger **and** after high school. ☐
- C. 12 **and** 16 years old. ☐
- D. Younger than four and older than 30. ☐

7. Where does this story take place?

- A. In the kitchen of the little girl's house after she grows up. ☐
- B. In the kitchen of the mother's house. ☐
- C. In the basement. ☐
- D. Both A and B above. ☐

8. When the little girl was older and came back to her mother's house, why did she and her mother still do dishes by hand, instead of using the dishwasher?

- A. They wanted to waste time. ☐
- B. It was their way of spending time with each other and talking. ☐
- C. Mother did not know how to use the dishwasher. ☐
- D. The men were in the family room watching football.. ☐