

The Children's Story by James Clavell

Author's Purpose Questions

Directions: Use the Author's Note section of the text to answer the following questions.

1. What event caused James Clavell to write *The Children's Story*?

James Clavell wrote *The Children's story* after his daughter came home from school and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. What did he realize?

He realized that his daughter was taught how to recite something without understanding what she was saying. When he asked adults about the Pledge, they all automatically recited it, but upon questioning, he realized that no one had ever explained it to them. It was just something they had to learn and recite.

3. Why did he write *The Children's Story* ?

He realized "how completely vulnerable my child's mind was-any mind-under controlled circumstances".

He asks:

"What's the use of 'I Pledge allegiance' without understanding?"

"Why is it so easy to divert thoughts and implant others?"

"What is freedom and why is so hard to explain?"

4. What is the theme of The Children's Story ?