

*****Student Questions*****

Family Under the Bridge

Chapter 1 pp. 1-8

1. Use page 1 to tell about the hobo named Armand.
2. Why wasn't Armand upset that he had to move from one place to another?
3. Why are there plants (fir tree, mistletoe, holly) at the market?
4. What did the gypsy fortune teller promise Armand?
5. Why did the children quit calling Armand the funny old tramp?
6. Why didn't Armand want anything to do with children?
7. Where does Armand live?
8. Why did Armand jump back in surprise and horror when he looked under the bridge?

Chapter 2 pp. 9-19

1. Why did the girl tell her dog JoJo to stop barking at Armand ?
2. Why do the three children say they are hiding under the bridge?
3. Why didn't Armand leave his bridge home for another?
4. Why did the children watch Armand while he ate his food?
5. Why did Armand tell Paul that he gave the children food, if he hated them?
6. Why does the children's mother say she won't put them in a orphanage?

7. Why does the children's mother say they can't go to school?
8. Why did Armand decide to take the children with him?
9. In France he is called Father Christmas, what is he called in America?

Chapter 3 pp. 21-28

1. Why did Armand wish he were a pigeon?
2. Why did Armand have to coax the children to move along the streets?
3. How did Armand say the Christmas log tasted?
4. Why did the children think they were in a fairyland once inside the store?
5. How did Father Christmas greet Armand and the children ?
6. What do the children want Father Christmas to bring them?
7. Why can't Father Christmas bring the children a real house?

Chapter 4 pp. 29-38

1. What did Armand want the children to see in the window of the Palais Royale square?
2. How did Armand get money for lunch for the three children, the dog and himself?
3. What did the children eat for lunch?
4. Why did Armand quarrel with the beggar on the corner?

5. Why does the children's mother say that she doesn't want her family to have anything to do with Armand?
6. How did Armand end the disagreement?

Chapter 5 pp. 39-51

1. Why didn't Armand sleep well under his new bridge?
2. Why were the children crying when Armand got back to his old bridge?
3. What is Armand's plan to save the children?
4. How will their mother know where the children are placed?
5. Instead of going to Rivoli, where did Armand lead the children?
6. Why did Armand say the place they were going was called the Court of Miracles?
7. Why was Suzy so happy when she saw Tinka's gypsy home on wheels?

Chapter 6 pp. 53-62

1. Why did Suzy say that she would travel with Tinka in her home on wheels?
2. Why did the children's mother say that Armand was a good man?
3. Why did the children's mother cry when she saw the gypsy camp?
4. Why does the children's mother decide to live with the gypsies?
5. Why wouldn't Mireli take money from the Calcet's ?
6. How does Suzie try to help Tinka and her friends?
7. Why does Suzie want Armand to see Father Christmas?
8. Design a house on wheels for the Calcets.

Chapter 7 pp. 63 – 72

1. How did Armand finally get the children to forget about their house on wheels?
2. Why was there a party under the Tournelle Bridge?
3. Why did their mother Madame Calcet agree to go to the party?
4. How did Armand and the Calcets get to the Christmas Eve party?
5. Why did Madame Calcet want to help serve sauerkraut and weiners?
6. Why did Armand say that Father Christmas made him promise not to tell?
7. Why did Madame Calcet want to stay until after midnight?
8. Why did Armand feel trapped by this family?
9. What presents did the gypsies and Calcets give each other?

Chapter 8 pp. 73- 84

1. Why was Suzy worried about Paul?
2. Why had the policeman come to the gypsy camp?
3. Why did Armand tell Paul that he couldn't go to Province with the gypsies?
4. Why did Armand tell Suzie they wouldn't be getting the new house?
5. Why did everyone at Halle's market laugh at Paul when he tried to get a job?
6. Why did the policeman want Nikki?
7. Why did Armand say that the children shouldn't worry?

Chapter 9 pp. 85- 97

1. Why does Madame Calcet agree to let Armand live with them?
2. What does Madame tell Armand to do in order to get a job?
3. What kind of job did Armand say that he was going to find?
4. Why didn't Armand want the floorwalker to recognize him?
5. Why didn't Monsieur Brunot want a night watchman?
6. Why did Monsieur say the pay low for the job?
7. Why wasn't Armand a hobo any more?
8. Make a drawing of the way you think that the Calcets should decorate their three-room home.

*****Answer Key*****

Family Under the Bridge

Chapter 1 pp. 1-8

1. Use page 1 to tell about the hobo named Armand. (ragged clothing, baby buggy belongings)
2. Why wasn't Armand upset that he had to move from one place to another? (something exciting about to happen)
3. Why are there plants (fir tree, mistletoe, holly) at the market? (soon be Christmas)
4. What did the gypsy fortune teller promise Armand? (meet with adventure today)
5. Why did the children quit calling Armand the funny old tramp? (told them he'd tell Father Christmas)
6. Why didn't Armand want anything to do with children? (steal his heart)
7. Where does Armand live? (under the bridge)
8. Why did Armand jump back in surprise and horror when he looked under the bridge? (three orphaned children)

Chapter 2 pp. 9-19

1. Why did the girl tell her dog JoJo to stop barking at Armand ? (he's just a tramp)
2. Why do the three children say they are hiding under the bridge? (Papa died, no money, mom wanted them to stay together)
3. Why didn't Armand leave his bridge home for another? (Suzy begged him to stay)
4. Why did the children watch Armand while he ate his food? (hungry)

5. Why did Armand tell Paul that he gave the children food, if he hated them? (soft-hearted)
6. Why does the children's mother say she won't put them in a orphanage? (families should stick together)
7. Why does the children's mother say they can't go to school? (teacher report them and put them in a home)
8. Why did Armand decide to take the children with him? (see Father Christmas)
9. In France he is called Father Christmas, what is he called in America?

Chapter 3 pp. 21-28

1. Why did Armand wish he were a pigeon? (even poor wanted to feed them)
2. Why did Armand have to coax the children to move along the streets? (sight-seeing)
3. How did Armand say the Christmas log tasted? (like medicine)
4. Why did the children think they were in a fairyland once inside the store? (lights, colors, smells)
5. How did Father Christmas greet Armand and the children ? (Ho! Ho! Ho!)
6. What do the children want Father Christmas to bring them? (a real home)
7. Why can't Father Christmas bring the children a real house? (donkey can't carry it)

Chapter 4 pp. 29-38

1. What did Armand want the children to see in the window of the Palais Royale square? (wedding feast)

2. How did Armand get money for lunch for the three children, the dog and himself? (children sang and he passed a hat)
3. What did the children eat for lunch? (three pancakes)
4. Why did Armand quarrel with the beggar on the corner? (man with monkey said he was on his corner)
5. Why does the children's mother say that she doesn't want her family to have anything to do with Armand? (turned her children into beggars)
6. How did Armand end the disagreement? (he left the bridge)

Chapter 5 pp. 39-51

1. Why didn't Armand sleep well under his new bridge? (worried about the children)
2. Why were the children crying when Armand got back to his old bridge? (two women want to take the children)
3. What is Armand's plan to save the children? (take them to Mireli)
4. How will their mother know where the children are placed? (Armand will tell her)
5. Instead of going to Rivoli, where did Armand lead the children? (Halles market)
6. Why did Armand say the place they were going was called the Court of Miracles? (beggars shed crutches and bandages and feasted there)
7. Why was Suzy so happy when she saw Tinka's gypsy home on wheels? (Father Christmas's donkey could bring them one)

Chapter 6 pp. 53-62

1. Why did Suzy say that she would travel with Tinka in her home on wheels? (needed to go to school)

2. Why did the children's mother say that Armand was a good man? (found friends for them to stay with)
3. Why did the children's mother cry when she saw the gypsy camp? (gypsy reputation, thieves and dishonest)
4. Why does the children's mother decide to live with the gypsies? (not enough money for a room)
5. Why wouldn't Mireli take money from the Calcet's ? take money from strangers, not friends)
6. How does Suzie try to help Tinka and her friends? ?(teach them to read)
7. Why does Suzie want Armand to see Father Christmas? (tell him where to bring their house on wheels)
8. Design a house on wheels for the Calcets.

Chapter 7 pp. 63 – 72

1. How did Armand finally get the children to forget about their house on wheels? (asked about going to a Christmas Eve party)
2. Why was there a party under the Tournelle Bridge? (church gave it every Christmas Eve for hoboes)
3. Why did their mother Madame Calcet agree to go to the party? (had little for her children and may forget the van)
4. How did Armand and the Calcets get to the Christmas Eve party? (Nikki's car)
5. Why did Madame Calcet want to help serve sauerkraut and weiners? (Said she wasn't really a tramp, pride)
6. Why did Armand say that Father Christmas made him promise not to tell? (no house on wheels, but build a house after Christmas)

7. Why did Madame Calcet want to stay until after midnight? (go to mass)
8. Why did Armand feel trapped by this family? (stolen his heart, even lied about house)
9. What presents did the gypsies and Calcets give each other? (nuts, candies, and toys to Calcets and jams to the gypsies, and soap for Armand)

Chapter 8 pp. 73- 84

1. Why was Suzy worried about Paul? (hung around gypsy boys, not his family)
2. Why had the policeman come to the gypsy camp? (wanted to arrest Nikki)
3. Why did Armand tell Paul that he couldn't go to Province with the gypsies? (think gypsies kidnapped red-haired boy)
4. Why did Armand tell Suzie they wouldn't be getting the new house? (builders didn't like children and a dog)
5. Why did everyone at Halle's market laugh at Paul when he tried to get a job? (too small to push the cart)
6. Why did the policeman want Nikki? (found his wallet with winning ticket)
7. Why did Armand say that the children shouldn't worry? (get a job, so they could afford a room)

Chapter 9 pp. 85- 97

1. Why does Madame Calcet agree to let Armand live with them? (grandap to the children)
2. What does Madame tell Armand to do in order to get a job? (bathe)

3. What kind of job did Armand say that he was going to find? (watchman)
4. Why didn't Armand want the floorwalker to recognize him? (shoed him away from begging)
5. Why didn't Monsieur Brunot want a night watchman? (wanted a caretaker)
6. Why did Monsieur say the pay low for the job? (included three room living quarters)
7. Why wasn't Armand a hobo any more? (working man of Paris)
8. Make a drawing of the way you think that the Calcets should decorate their three-room home.