

Read. Think. Explain.

An active reader is always looking for big ideas and deeper meaning in a play by paying attention to things like dialogue, character development, setting, and the sequence in which events happen. In this activity, you'll answer questions about these elements in *The Tale of Despereaux*.

Directions: Answer the questions below, using information and details from the play to back up your ideas.

1. In the first scene, the Kingdom of Dor is preparing for a holiday. What genre, or kind of story, does the scene suggest the play will be? Why?

2. Roscuro is different from other rats. What details from the story show how he is different? What details show how Despereaux is different from other mice?

3. What does Roscuro want from Despereaux? Why?

4. What do you predict will happen next in the story? How do you think it will end?
