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Junior Book Club in a Bag
Discussion Questions

Belly Up
by Stuart Gibbs

1. What does Teddy's upbringing in the Congo reveal about his character and abilities?

2. What factors contribute to Teddy's love for animals?

3. If you were Teddy, how would you balance environmental ethic with the pressures of financial gain in managing a zoo like FunJungle? How would you try to resolve this opposite interests?

4. Do you think zoos should care more about the well being of the animals, or the experience for visitors? Do you think one is more important than the other, or are there ways to balance both?

5. What do you think of Teddy's bravery in his search for the truth? Because of his age, do you think it was too dangerous for him?

6. Summer McCracken's background is very different from Teddy's, yet they work together as a team. Do you think it is better to have different perspectives when trying to solve complex problems? Why or why not?

7. Martin del Gato's decision to smuggle emeralds inside animals raises questions about the lengths people will go for wealth. Could there ever be a justification for actions that harm animals?

8. Discuss how humor is used in *Belly Up*. How are comedic elements used to keep readers interested and lighten the tone?

9. The setting in the novel is the FunJungel theme park. How does this setting enhance the mystery and suspense in the story?

The above questions were taken from https://www.supersummary.com/belly-up/discussion-questions/ to enhance your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

Stuart Gibbs is the author of five bestselling middle grade series: *Spy School*, *FunJungle*, *Charlie Thorne*, *Moon Base Alpha*, and *The Lost Musketeer*. He also writes for TV and film. Before his writing career, he studied capybaras, the world's largest rodents.

https://stuartgibbs.com/

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