Book Discussion Guide for ‘Ling and Ting Not Exactly the Same!’

About the book: This children's book by Grace Lin, tells many stories of Ling and Ting, two identical twin sisters. The book talks about how even though the two look exactly the same, there are many differences between them. The book contains six stories, which each reveal a different lesson, hidden behind a fun and exciting story. This book teaches sisterhood, friendship, and the importance of being different and unique.

Grade Level: Kindergarten (Grace Lin & Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor Book)

Discussion Questions

1. The Haircuts
   a. List some features of Ling and Ting that make them look exactly the same.
   b. How can you tell the difference between Ling and Ting after their haircuts?

2. The Magic Trick
   a. How many cards did Ling choose before she gave up?

3. Making Dumplings
   a. What do people say dumplings look like?
   b. What does Ting say she is going to put a lot of in the dumplings? Why?

4. Chopsticks
   a. What does Ting suggest to make using Chopsticks easier?
   b. What message is this story trying to tell?

5. The Library Book
a. What happens at the end of the story?

6. Mixed Up

a. What story is Ting telling?

7. Overall Questions

a. What message is Grace Lin trying to tell?

b. Do you think it's important that we are all different?

c. What is something that makes YOU unique?

Bonus Activity: Write or draw your own version of Ling and Ting! Include at least 2 similarities and 2 differences, then name your characters and give them personality traits.

My own version of Ling and Ting is my sister and me. My sister, Cara, and I do not look very similar, but we like a lot of the same things and are pretty similar. Cara is a little bit taller than me and has darker hair. We both like the same music and the same foods. Our favorite band is LANY and our favorite food is homemade quesadillas. We’re both fun people who like to hang out with friends and go shopping. Even though we have differences, we are also very similar.