

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Here are some of the themes you found in reading *The Misadventures of Maude March*. Talk about how they show up in the story:

Appearances and actions can be deceiving; A crisis can force us to see ourselves and others in new ways; It's important to **1)** stand up for yourself, **2)** to choose the course of your life, **3)** to take responsibility for your choices.

Show places in the story where Maude and Sallie do each of these three things, either as a pair or separately.

Maude thinks of herself as the kind of person who tries to do the right thing. In the story, this idea is challenged many times. Name one of these challenges and tell how she reacts to it.

Sallie starts out sure that she is adventurous and ready to meet any challenge. Where does she judge herself lacking, and where is she able to measure up? Where is she bold and where does she wish for her old life back?

By the end of the story, in what way have the girls had to do things they thought were wrong? In what ways do they seem like the almost right choice?

What things did they do out of kindness or concern, or wanting to do the right thing, or wanting to be safe, and how did those turn out?

There are five ways people usually choose from to resolve a conflict. They are:

- ≡ Avoidance. This is when people say, it's not that big a problem. And I'm going to pretend I don't care.
- ≡ Accommodation. When people say, I didn't want it that much

- anyway. I don't want it at all if it's going to cause all this trouble.
- ≡ Aggression. One of us is going to get our way. It's going to be me.
  - ≡ Compromise. I'll give a little, if you give a little.
  - ≡ Problem solving. Let's talk about this. I'm sure we can work something out.

Where do you see examples of each of these in the story?