

Mentor Text Guiding Questions:

The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg

The boy's friend told him that Santa doesn't exist, but the boy continues to believe. Think of a time in your own life that you have experienced this situation. How does it feel to keep firm when other people tell you you are wrong?

Why can the boy and his sister hear the bell while their parents cannot?

Why can the boy still hear the bell as an adult, while his sister and friends cannot?

What do you think Van Allsburg wants the bell to represent?