

# THE PASSPORT PROJECT

## Two Sisters Ditch Middle School for a Life-Changing Journey Around the World



### Part One: The Bubble

1. If your parents announced you would be going on a world-wide trip, would you be thrilled. (like Riley) or upset (like Delaney)? Which sister do you identify with more and why?
2. What would be the maximum amount of time you would be willing to go? Three months? Six months? A year?
3. Who or what would you miss most while you are gone?
4. Would you rather spend all of your time in one part of the world and learn about it in depth? Or skip around and visit lots of different places? Why?
5. Delaney and Riley's parents prioritize experiences over material things, like the latest clothes/toys/electronics. Which do you value more? Why?

### Part Two: The World



#### *Iceland:*

6. How would you feel about sharing a house with strangers?
7. Before going to the community pool, the McIntyres had to shower in a room full of people. Are you a modest person? Would you have been freaked out by the locker room rules? If so, would you go through with the pre-swimming ritual? Or miss out on the swimming experience altogether?

***England:***

8. Adults keep telling the sisters that they are learning more by traveling than sitting in a classroom. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?

***Italy:***

9. The McIntyres experience a series of unfortunate interactions with the locals. How do the people we meet influence how we feel about an experience or place? Why is it important to not judge an entire group of people based on our interactions with a few?

***Sri Lanka:***

10. The sisters feel very self-conscious in their yoga pants when all of the other females are wearing saris or burkas. Have you ever been judged by the clothes you wear? How did it make you feel?

11. Have you ever judged others based on how they were dressed?

12. Have you ever been in the minority due to race, religion, or economic differences? How did it make you feel?

***Thailand:***

13. Do you think all humans are connected in one way or another? Why or why not?

14. Were you surprised to learn that some countries imprison their citizens for making negative comments about the president/leader/government? What would the United States be like without freedom of speech?

***Malaysia:***

15. When the McIntyres wanted to talk with “our people” after the church service, did you think they were referring to the White family with daughters? Or the Black couple? Who did they have more in common with? Why?

***Vietnam***

16. Were you surprised to learn that the swastika was an ancient symbol for good luck before it became associated with evil?

***Australia***

17. How do you think it made the McIntyres feel to visit the family they met in Vietnam at their home in Australia? Have you ever been homesick? How did you deal with it?

***New Zealand***

18. Were you surprised when Delaney and Riley’s mom bungee jumps? Would you bungee jump?

19. Have you ever allowed fear to hold you back from taking a risk? Do you regret that decision?

20. What does Delaney's bungee jump represent?

### ***Bali, Indonesia***

21. What is your Balinese name? What do you think about Bali's naming tradition?

22. What are some interesting things you've learned about other religions through Delaney and Riley's experiences?

23. Is it possible to be friends with people whose spiritual beliefs differ from yours? What can you learn from each other?

24. What does Riley realize when she's shopping for deodorant? How is it significant?

### ***China***

25. Were you surprised to learn that each country makes its own rules about who is allowed to enter and the paperwork required? What are the pros and cons of this?

26. When the McIntyres don't have the right visa due to their flight's itinerary, they are detained at the airport. How did you feel reading about the McIntyres' detainment and deportation? Was it fair? Or unfair?

27. When the McIntyres are detained in a communist country, it is their first experience with loss of freedom. How do they each react? Why?

28. Have you ever lost your freedom? Can you imagine living in a country or world without it?



## **Part Three: The Difference**

29. What does it mean to "live in a bubble?" Do you? Why or why not? Why is it important to get out of your bubble?

30. What are some ways to get out of your bubble in your own city?

31. Which of the countries that you learned about would you most want to visit? Why?

32. Which situation was the scariest? The most unusual? The most exciting? The most humiliating? The most heartwarming?

33. How did Delaney and Riley change over the course of the journey?