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If Your Name Was Changed At Ellis Island



Synopsis

If your name were changed at Ellis Island--Would everyone in your family travel together?--How long would you stay at Ellis Island?--Would your name be changed? This book tells you what it was like if when Ellis Island was opened in 1892 as a center for immigrants coming to live in America.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 880L (What's this?)

Series: If You

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reissue edition (August 1, 1994)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9 x 7.5 inches

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #60,507 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Emigrants & Immigrants #54 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s #64 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Despite the book's somewhat misleading title (only two pages are devoted to the practice of changing names), Levine (*I Hate English!* ; *If You Lived at the Time of Martin Luther King*) offers a comprehensive, well organized discussion of the immigration procedures followed at Ellis Island between 1892 and 1914. One- or two-page chapters offer concise answers to questions ("What did people bring with them?"; "What happened if you were detained?")

Arranged in Q&A style, this survey of earlier immigrations asks: "Did all immigrants come through Ellis Island?" (no); "Did you have to have a job waiting for you?" (again, no; in fact, it was not allowed). It's evident that America has always been a polyglot magnet--even in 1643, 18 languages were spoken in one colonial area. It's also evident that there's been long-standing prejudice against

certain immigrants (ability to read was required for entrance, and first and second class arrivals didn't have to sweat it out at Ellis Island). Perhaps most interesting here are the individual stories: the name change in the author's own family; the child who had never seen a banana and ate it whole; the "six-second" medical exam. Levine (If You Traveled West in a Covered Wagon, 1986) gives multiculturalism an extra boost by ending with a sampling of words and other contributions from many heritages. Nostalgically warm impressionistic paintings, suffused with sepia, simultaneously signal suffering and hope. (Nonfiction. 7-10) -- Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

We are taking our 9 year old grandson to New York City for Christmas, and we wanted the trip to include some educational elements. Since we will visit Ellis Island, I purchased this book for him and we are both enjoying learning more about how the immigration process worked. This is a great book to teach this subject.

Very informative, good details at a level suitable for a 7 year old.

My 8 year old daughter had to do a non-fiction booklet report. We were perusing the internet and came across Ellis Island as a possible subject to cover. Perfect layout for picking out specific details, broken down with easy to find bolded subjects and easy to read. Now she wants to visit the island!!

This is a great history book for children. It is very informative. We have become fans of all of the "If you..." books we have received.

Great use in the classroom.

good for kids' gifts

Great book. A wonderful way to give your children/grandchildren a background of the US. Got me to thinking about stories my parents, grandparents told me about family history. Very appropriate at this time with immigrants being such a hot topic!!! Sorry more people haven't read it or critiqued it. It is a must read for all Americans who had family coming through Ellis Island. Used with 2 grandkids,

have 2 more to share it. Live near enough to visit the Grand Lady.

It's a great book I used YEARS ago when I was teaching 2nd grade. It hits home for me because my grandparents were all immigrants. I purchased this copy for my niece, whose 3rd grade class was studying the Pilgrims, as well as other groups of people who had many different reasons to come to America. My grandfather and his brother came through Ellis Island together and ended up with different last names. As far as I'm concerned, this story a classic.

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