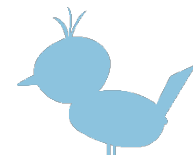




Discussing and Thinking



1. Who Is Blue Bird? Discuss what young readers know about Blue Bird. What does he do? Is Blue Bird real or pretend? How do they know? Would they like to be friends with Blue Bird? Why or why not? Would they rather be friends with Blue Bird at a certain point in the story? Why or why not?

2. Friends... Everyone has friends. What kind of friend was Corn Crow? Did Corn Crow give Blue Bird helpful advice or unhelpful advice? Why or why not? Did Blue Bird follow Corn Crow's philosophy, or did Blue Bird think critically about the advice Corn Crow gave? How could Blue Bird have handled the situation differently? How could Blue Bird's story be different had he chosen to dismiss Corn Crow's advice? Is it good to act on a friend's advice, or is it better to process their advice before acting? Why or why not?

3. A horse in pajamas? Ask children why Blue Bird thought that Zebra was a horse wearing pajamas. Was Blue Bird mistaken in his assumption about Zebra being a horse? Why or Why not? What were some other things Blue Bird was mistaken about in the story?

4. What Else, Blue Bird? Reread the book, pausing to discuss each thing that makes Blue Bird believe something is a weed. What else could Blue Bird consider to be a weed: grass, butterflies, bugs, or people? Encourage children to think in other directions, as well. What else is blue? Who are the other birds? How are the other birds different? How are the other birds alike? Could the living things Blue Bird considered *weeds* have considered him a *weed*? Why or why not? Is it good to appreciate people for who they are? Why or why not?