

# DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR **Lacinda** THE LION

By Beth Davis | Super Unique Beast Series

## **BOOK SUMMARY:**

**Lacinda the Lion** is bright, bold, and full of personality! But when others don't always understand her unique way of being, she starts to question herself. Through self-discovery and learning to embrace who she truly is, Lacinda realizes that her uniqueness is her greatest strength! **This story teaches kids about self-acceptance, confidence, and celebrating individuality.**

## **PRE-READING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- Look at the cover-what do you think this story will be about?
- What does the word 'unique' mean? Can you think of a time you felt unique?
- Why do you think it's important to accept ourselves just as we are?
- How do you feel when someone tells you that you're different?
- If you were an animal, what kind of Super Unique Beast would you be?

## **DURING READING - THINK & REFLECT:**

**Page where Lacinda starts feeling unsure about being different**

- Why do you think Lacinda feels this way?
- Have you ever felt like you needed to change to fit in?

**Page where Lacinda meets other animals**

- What do you notice about the different characters?
- How do they react to Lacinda?
- Are they accepting, or do they challenge her uniqueness?

**Page where Lacinda realizes being unique is powerful**

- What do you think helped Lacinda see her uniqueness as a strength?
- How can we help our friends feel confident about their differences?

## **POST-READING DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES:**

**Self-Acceptance & Confidence**

- What makes you unique? Write or draw three things that make you special!
- If you could give Lacinda advice, what would you say to her?
- What would the world be like if everyone was exactly the same?

**Teamwork & Kindness**

- How can we support friends who feel different?
- Why is it important to accept others for who they are?
- Think of a time when you helped a friend feel confident-how did it feel?



**TAKEAWAY  
MESSAGE:**

**"We are ALL unique in our own way, and that is what makes the world amazing! Celebrate who you are, and never be afraid to shine!"**

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# DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR MYKAL THE MONKEY

By Beth Davis | Super Unique Beast Series

## **BOOK SUMMARY:**

**Mykal the Monkey Is a Super Unique Beast** follows the story of a young monkey with physical differences who dreams of becoming a treasure hunter like his father. Through vibrant illustrations and a heartwarming narrative, students explore big themes like resilience, representation, and the power of embracing what makes us unique.

## **PRE-READING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- What do you notice about Mykal on the cover?
- What words come to mind when you hear "super unique beast"?
- Have you ever felt different from others?
- Have you ever had a big dream or goal, like becoming an explorer or adventurer?
- Why do you think it's important to learn stories about characters who are different from us?

## **DURING READING - THINK & REFLECT:**

- What are some of the challenges Mykal faces?
- How does Mykal feel when his dad says they are going on a treasure hunt?
- Who supports Mykal on his journey? Why is that important?

## **POST-READING DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES:**

### **Questions:**

- What helped Mykal believe in himself?
- Why is it important to celebrate what makes us different?
- How can we be kind and supportive to someone who feels left out or different?

### **Kind Words Circle**

In a circle, each student shares one kind thing about the person to their right—just like Mykal's dad supports him.

### **Create a Treasure Map of Strengths**

Students make a "map" that shows their strengths (creativity, kindness, bravery, etc.) with illustrations or words.

### **Dear Mykal Letters**

Write a short note to Mykal with advice, encouragement, or a connection to their own experience.



## **TAKEAWAY MESSAGE:**

"When you believe in yourself, anything is possible.  
The real treasure is being exactly who you are."



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# DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR **Hanna** THE **Hawk**

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## **BOOK SUMMARY:**

**Hanna the Hawk is a Super Unique Beast** is a heartwarming story about a young hawk who is visually impaired. With the help of her supportive service animal and friend, Camo the chameleon, Hanna learns how to navigate the world around her in new and creative ways. This story emphasizes the power of teamwork, friendship, and finding strength in differences.

## **PRE-READING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- Look at the cover-what do you think Hanna's story will be about?
- What do you think makes Hanna a "Super Unique Beast"?
- Have you ever needed help with something? How did it feel to ask for help?
- What do you know about service animals? How do they help people?
- How can we be a good friend to someone who faces challenges?

## **DURING READING - THINK & REFLECT:**

**Page where Hanna struggles to do fly away from the tree house:**

- What challenge does Hanna face? How does it make her feel?
- How does her service Camo support her?

**Page where Hanna learns that teamwork is powerful:**

- How do Hanna's siblings and her service animal help her succeed?
- Why is accepting help an important part of being strong?

## **POST-READING DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES:**

### **Questions:**

- What lesson does Hanna learn about teamwork?
- Have you ever helped someone with a challenge? How did it feel?
- Why is it important to be kind and understanding to people with disabilities?
- Have you ever felt unsure or needed help with something? Who helped you?
- What are some creative ways Hanna learns to explore and experience the world?
- What did you learn about visual impairments or service animals from this story?
- How can we support friends or classmates who do things differently?

### **Creative Activities:**

- Design a superhero sidekick that helps people in need!  
What special skills does it have?
- **Empathy Journal Prompt:** Write or draw a moment when you helped someone or someone helped you. How did it feel?



## **TAKEAWAY MESSAGE:**

Just like Hanna, every child has a unique way of seeing the world—and that's something to celebrate. By embracing what makes us different and working together with kindness and courage, we can all soar to new heights.



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# DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR **TURBO** THE **TURTLE**

By Beth Davis | Super Unique Beast Series

## **BOOK SUMMARY:**

**Turbo the Turtle is a Super Unique Beast** tells the story of a spirited young turtle who navigates life with ADHD and dyslexia. With the support of his caring uncle, Turbo learns how to approach learning in a way that works for him—showing that being different doesn't mean being less. This uplifting story highlights determination, creative problem-solving, and the importance of supportive relationships.

## **KEY THEMES:**

- ADHD & Dyslexia
- Learning Differences & Adaptability
- Patience & Self-Compassion
- Perseverance & Growth Mindset
- Supportive Adults & Mentorship

## **CONNECTION TO SEL & INCLUSION GOALS:**

This book supports discussions around:

- Understanding and Respecting Learning Differences
- Building Patience, Perseverance, and Growth Mindset
- Encouraging Self-Awareness and Compassion
- Creating a Supportive Learning Environment

## **DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES:**

### **Questions:**

- What are some of the challenges Turbo faces in the story?
- How does Turbo feel when he struggles with reading and learning?
- Who helps Turbo, and how does their support make a difference?
- What are some of the creative ways Turbo learns to tackle his challenges?
- What makes Turbo a "Super Unique Beast"?
- Have you ever had to work extra hard to learn something? What helped you?
- Why is it important to be patient with ourselves and others when learning something new?
- How can we support friends who learn in different ways?

### **Creative Activities:**

- **Learning Strengths Poster:** Students create a poster or collage that shows what they're great at and how they learn best.
- **Encouragement Cards:** Write cards with kind messages for other classmates.
- **Try Something New Challenge:** Try a new activity that feels hard or difficult and journal/draw how it felt to keep going.



## **TAKEAWAY MESSAGE:**

Turbo shows us that it's okay to learn in your own way and at your own pace. What matters most is not how fast you go, but that you keep moving forward with courage, curiosity, and belief in yourself.

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## BOOK SUMMARY:

**Pixie the Pig Is a Super Unique Beast** – When Pixie tries to make new friends, things don't go as planned, but with the help of her caring and observant mother, Pixie discovers that there are other ways to connect. Together, they find a Super Unique way to share Pixie's feelings and invite friendship into her world.

## PRE-READING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Look at the cover-what do you think Pixie's story will be about?
- Have you ever felt different from the people around you? What did that feel like?
- What makes you feel safe or calm when things get too loud or overwhelming?
- What do you know about pigs? Let's imagine a pig who LOVES fairies—what might her world be like?

*Teacher Tip:* You may want to introduce the idea that some people experience the world differently, including the way they talk, play, or handle sounds.

## DURING READING - THINK & REFLECT:

**When Pixie feels overwhelmed by loud noises:**

- What do you think is happening in her body?
- How does Pixie show her feelings without using words?

**When Pixie pulls on her headphones:**

- Why do you think that helps her?
- What are some tools or things that help you feel better?

**When her mom gives her a big hug:**

- How does that show love and support?
- What are some other ways we can comfort someone?

**When Pixie makes a new friend:**

- How did they connect without talking?
- What do you think they're feeling as they play together?

## POST-READING DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES:

**Questions:**

- What makes Pixie a "Super Unique Beast"?
- Why do you think Pixie didn't talk out loud? Can people still communicate without speaking?
- How did Pixie's mom help her feel safe?
- What did Pixie's new friend do that helped her feel accepted?
- Have you ever made a friend who liked different things than you?

**Activities:**

- 1. Draw What Makes You Unique:** Each student draws a picture of something special about themselves and shares (verbally or with help) what makes them unique.
- 2. Kindness Role-Play:** Act out ways we can make others feel included like using gestures, smiling, playing together, or simply sitting nearby.
- 3. Sensory Exploration Station:** Set up stations with textures, sounds, and visual tools. Let kids reflect on what feels good or overwhelming and learn that we all feel things differently.



## TAKEAWAY MESSAGE:

Just like Pixie, we all have our own way of seeing, feeling, and sharing the world. Some of us speak with words, and some of us speak with smiles, gestures, or quiet bravery. What matters most is that we listen with kindness, notice with care, and celebrate the things that make each of us super unique.

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