

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



by Danny Neville • illustrated by Colleen McKeown • Discussion questions by Danny Neville

Please remember that the suggested questions within this educator guide are meant to serve as a starting point. Educators are encouraged to select questions that work best for their style of teaching and will help them meet their goals when covering the topics in this book. Prompts should be adapted to best fit your students, context, and community to ensure equity and inclusion.

1. What did you know about butterflies before you read this book? What interesting facts did you discover from the book?
2. If you had to pick one favorite insect, what would it be? Why would you choose that one? How about your least favorite insect?
3. If you've read *Little Bee: The Buzz About the Party*, you may have noticed a change in Penny's character. What do you think has changed for her? How is she different from the first book to the second? What do you think made her change?
4. At the end of Chapter 4, Bee and Sarah see how sad Tiam is feeling and decide to help him. What is something you could do for a friend who is feeling sad? Why do you think that might help them?
5. What do you know about drag queens? Did you learn anything new from *The Storytime Extravaganza*?
6. Has anyone ever made fun of you for something? Have you ever witnessed someone else being teased? How did you feel? What did you do?
7. In the book, Tiam does a few things that he doesn't normally do, like play video games with Santiago and Dylan, or try to join the other kids playing baseball. Why do you think he did these things?
8. On p. 14, Blake asks Tiam why he doesn't "act like a normal boy"? What do you think this means?
9. On pp. 54-55, Bee tells her papa about Blake's "like a girl" comment. Have you ever heard anyone say this? What do you think it means? How does it make you feel?
10. Inside a chrysalis, a caterpillar changes into a butterfly. Can you think of a time when you needed to change or adapt? How did it make you feel?

11. Use a dictionary to look up the definition of bullying. What does it say? Do you think Blake's words and actions qualify as bullying? Why or why not?
12. Bee and her friends love brunch, a delicious mix between breakfast and lunch. What different foods would you include on your fancy brunch menu? Compare with a friend.
13. In your opinion, what is the best kind of cookie? Defend your answer by coming up with three reasons why your cookie choice is better than the rest.
14. If you see someone being left out of a game, what are some small things you could do to help?
15. Think about a time when you felt left out or when someone wasn't nice to you. How did it make you feel? What is something that might have helped you in that moment?
16. A bunch of the kids at school paint their pinky nails and sign a petition in support of Tiam and Drag Queen Storytime. This is called "activism"—they used their voices to make real change happen. Have you ever had an experience like this? Do you feel like your voice matters in your community?
17. Did this book change your perspective on anything? What new or interesting idea will you carry with you now that you have read this book?



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COLLEEN MCKEOWN is an illustrator and toy designer who lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and launched her children's book career with the Little Bee series. She loves the foggy mornings and creating colorful and playful images of engaging characters.