

The Blue Jay Blues, A Teacher's Guide

By Andrea Hagan



Activity ideas for The Blue Jay Blues:

Start a bird band!

Let each child pick a bird band member - blue jay, hummingbird, cardinal, woodpecker or owl. Divide into sections, with the blue jays playing an imaginary guitar; the hummingbirds playing the harmonica; the cardinal playing the piano; the woodpeckers on the drums; and the owl on the bass. Play a few seconds of a blues song, anything by B.B. King will do!

Can you think of some other birds that might want to join your bird band?

What's your favorite bird and why?

What makes you feel blue?

Ask the children if they can think of anything that's ever made them feel blue. Then ask what is something that they could do to feel better.

Stereotypes busted!

Explain that a stereotype is making your mind up about something or someone before you experience it or know the person yourself.

Why do you think the other birds thought that Blue Jay was a bad bird?

Did they change their minds about Blue Jay?

Can you think of an example where you thought you wouldn't like something and then you experienced it and liked it?

