




DREW LECLAIR GETS A CLUE: DISCUSSION GUIDE



1) Drew Leclair uses observations to make sense of what's happening around her. How does this help her in social situations?

2) In the first chapter, how does Drew feel about her mother? Do you think she's only upset because her mother is leaving? How do you think their relationship was before this incident?

3) When we see Drew at Ella Baker Middle School, we find out that a lot of kids there are either bullies, or have been bullied. Have you ever been bullied? If you could make yourself a "3-step bully remedy" like Drew, what would yours look like?


4) Drew starts the story by making profiles on the people around her, especially those she thinks are unkind. Do you think the profiles are fair? How do you think they help Drew process the way she was treated in grade school?

5) Ella Baker Shade is known for posting secrets and embarrassing moments on Instagram. Have you ever had someone post something mean about you on social media? Have you seen it happen to someone else? What do you think someone should do if they see this happening online?

6) Why do you think Drew deletes the message from Vice Principal Lopez in Chapter Four?



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7) Drew and her dad, Sam, like to bond over watching true crime. Do you think Drew is too young for that topic? Why do you think she might find comfort in something so scary?


8) Throughout the book, Drew feels fear and embarrassment that her best friend Shrey has a crush on her. Why do you think she's scared to tell him that she only wants to be friends? Have you ever felt like you and your friends were growing apart? If you stayed friends, how did you come back together?

9) Drew's new friend Trissa points out that a lot of kids face racism from both students and teachers at Ella Baker Middle School. Some of the incidents might seem small, but they can add up to have a lasting impact. What are some things students can do in school to prevent systemic racism? How can the school administrations help the students make those changes?

10) Drew points out that her friend Trissa is better at social situations than she is. Do you think Drew needs to work on that? Do your friends have any talents that complement your friend group? What strengths do you think that Shrey has that Drew lacks? Have you seen other examples in literature of a friend group that works well together (because of their differences, not in spite of them) to solve a problem?



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11) When Alicia Alongie, a bully, is targeted by Ella Baker Shade for her weight, Drew stands up for her. Why do you think she did that, after how Alicia treated her? Do you think it's wrong to pick on someone for their appearance, even if they are mean? How might it hurt the people around you to make a mean comment about a mean person?

12) When Drew runs out of leads, she begins to profile her friends. Why do you think she does that? What do you think was going through her head when she wrote the profiles?

13) Why do you think Drew tries to avoid crying after her mother leaves? How do you think this story might have been different if she hadn't held back her emotions?

14) Even though Drew tries hard not to cry, her body experiences symptoms. Both of her chronic illnesses--asthma and irritable bowel--tend to flare up when she's under stress. How does your body react to stress? How do you help your body when those problems come up?

15) Drew makes a lot of mistakes and breaks the rules in this book. How do you think she could have solved the case without breaking the rules?

16) At the end of the story, how do you think Drew is different? What do you think her life will look like after the story is over? Do you think she'll ever make up with her mom?