

# Not Me Discussion Questions

@Deb Mortensen, 2024

Before reading~ Front cover: Why do you think Not Me has 4 fingers, instead of 5, on each hand?

Page 4: Joshua Bentley was excited for the first day of school. Is that a day YOU are excited about? Why or why not? He put on his lucky shirt and new shoes. Do you have anything lucky YOU wear the first day of school? Share.

Page 9: Would things have been different for Joshua if others could see Not Me on his shoulder. Explain.

The names of the school workers and Joshua's school are descriptive (i.e. Mrs. Kind, Senora Fork, Mr. Fast, Mr. Fair, Miss Swing, B.A. Friend Elementary School, etc.) If YOU were the author, what would be a good name for the music teacher? Art teacher? Class pet? Other ideas?

Pages 10-11: The children in Room 101 began their day with Morning Meeting, sharing their feelings. How do YOU feel today? Why?

Page 12: In P.E., Mr. Fast showed the children how to toss a frisbee. What activity do YOU enjoy in P.E. class?

Page 14: Hermie the hamster was the class pet. What other animals make good class pets and why? Why was Not Me so afraid of Hermie?

Who was truly responsible for all the things that happened in school that day? Explain how with each activity: milk spilled in the kitchen, hitting the teacher with a frisbee, Hermie the hamster escaping his cage, peas hitting Senora Fork, knocking over the garbage can.

Page 19: Christian is new to B.A. Friend Elementary school. What did he dare Joshua to do? Why did Joshua do it? Is it ever a good idea to do something you've been dared to do? Why or why not?



# Not Me Discussion Questions Continued

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Page 25: Joshua was sent to the principal's office. Have you ever been sent to the principal's office? How did you show you had learned from your mistake? What does "excruciating" mean? Can you think of a situation you waited a long time for something to happen?

Page 25: Why was Joshua so mad at Not Me? Why did Not Me think he was helping Joshua?

Page 26: Why did Joshua admit all the mistakes he had made to Principal Fair?

Page 27: Joshua gave Mr. Fair a fist bump before leaving his office. How do YOU show or what do YOU say to praise someone?

Page 29: Why did Not Me jump off Joshua's shoulder and leave B.A. Friend Elementary School?

Page 32: Why was the book Joshua chose a good choice for Mrs. Kind to read to the class at the end of the day?

Have YOU ever blamed Not Me for something YOU did? How did the other person react to that response?

Front Cover: Were you right in your prediction? Why did the illustrator give Not Me 4 fingers instead of 5 on each hand?

Back Cover: Share the sequence of the items Joshua and Not Me had trouble with.

