

Discussion Guide



*"We must all dare to DREAM
But we also must DO
For dreamers are many,
But doers are few."*

Imagine & Create

- What would the world be like without imagination?
- Imagine the Fantastic Bureau of Imagination Secret Headquarters, what do you think it looks like?
- Study the figments. What do you notice about them? What other figments can you imagine? What are they responsible for within the Fantastic Bureau of Imagination?
- The figments in The Makery have created samples of some amazing things - a plant that grew Popsicles, a flying 1980's station wagon, and a rabbit with a beautiful singing voice! What ideas would you deliver to The Makery to see them brought to life?
- Study the map. What do you think happens in each of these rooms? What other rooms might you find in the FBI? Why are these things important to creativity and imagination?
- Look at all the Untold Stories in the cave! Some are symphonies, performances, plays, inventions, and ideas for brightening days. What else do you imagine might be in the cave?
- When we become Agents of Imagination, we can use our brilliant ideas to create beautiful tomorrows. What do you envision in a beautiful tomorrow?

Text-to-Self Connections

- Do you have a skill, interest, or talent that you have never shared with anyone? Why?
- What emotions does Sparky experience in the story? Have you ever felt that way?
- Sparky is afraid of Brenda. He imagines the worst. Has this ever happened to you?
- Sparky makes assumptions based on Brenda's appearance. He imagines that she might eat him, or laugh at his hat, or laugh while eating him and his hat! Have you ever made assumptions about someone else that turn out to be incorrect? Has anyone ever incorrectly assumed anything about you? What was that experience like?
- Sparky surprises himself by deciding to help Brenda even though he is afraid. Have you ever taken an action that surprises you? What happened?

Understanding Humanity

- Sparky throws himself into his very big job to avoid sharing his special talent. What types of things do humans do to avoid sharing their true selves?
- How can we "tell fear to get out of the way"?
- What are some barriers to imagination?
- The opening letter in this book explains that more agents of imagination are needed! Agent Whim specifically mentions that compassion and creativity are vital characteristics of an agent of imagination. What other characteristics do you think would be beneficial for an agent of imagination to have?
- How can you help Sparky's words find their way all over the world?