

BETWEEN THE LINES BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS
#friendshipiscolorblind

1. When Hattie misses her birthday party, do you agree with her reaction? Should she have tried to change her attitude?
2. Hattie is heartbroken when she learns that her best friends blame her family for the changes in the neighborhood. Were they right to blame her? Did her parents do the wrong thing in selling the house?
3. If you were Hattie, would you have had the same shyness and reluctance about attending a new school?
4. Hattie is concerned about changing attitudes and hates how people focus on differences. Do you think she comes by her fervor naturally or do you think she works on it?
5. How does Beverly change Hattie? How does Hattie change her?
6. When Crackers enters the story, how does she change Hattie? Beverly?
7. What did you think about Hattie's mom's reaction to Beverly? Could you understand it?
8. Have you ever met someone who was completely different than you, and you wanted to know them even better? Did you ever wish you were more like them? Why?
9. How do your friends change you for the better?
10. Do you think Hattie would have made friends with Beverly Jo and Crackers even if she wasn't shy?
11. Was Beverly wrong to have read the note?
12. What do you think should have happened when Beverly's teacher treated her poorly?
13. How do you feel about prejudice? Where do you notice it?
14. Were you surprised by Colleen's reaction to Hattie's choice in friends?

15. When you learn about Cracker's mom, does it change how you think about her?
16. If you had been in Hattie, Cracker's and Beverly's shoes when bullies confront them, what would you have done?
17. What do you think of the way the girls handled the principal's consequences after the incident?
18. If you ran an experiment in your class similar to what the girls developed, what do you think you would learn?
19. How did this book change your attitude about bigotry and intolerance?
20. If you wanted to change the world, how would you do it? (Think of something small and practical you could do, like the Dream Girls did.)