

Engelbird

Big Questions for Little Humans
Episode 9

ENGELBIRD
the winter lover ♥



A series that helps to explore big questions for little humans.
We navigate emotions and situations meant to inspire conversations about feelings.

Lee-Ann Matthews & Katerin Kuki Juretic

BIG QUESTIONS FOR LITTLE HUMANS
DRAGONBUNNYBOOKS.COM 

Engelbird was a starling but not an ordinary starling.

Engelbird was different.

Engelbird looked like all of the other birds, with the same glossy feathers, yellow beak and small black eyes but Engelbird wasn't the same as the others.

When all of the birds were learning how to eat worms, Engelbird cried and didn't want to harm the cute, squiggly little creatures, preferring to eat seeds instead.

When all of the birds were grouping up as male or female, Engelbird couldn't relate and learned early on that they were neither one nor the other. "*I am just ENGELBIRD!*" They exclaimed.

This year, when the weather was getting colder and all of the birds were flocking together making plans to fly south, dreaming about palm trees and sandy beaches and gathering in trees for loud, chirpy meetings about which route to take and what to pack for the long journey, Engelbird didn't join the flock.

When the temperature dropped Engelbird admired the way everything glittered bright and sparkly from the frost.

Now we already know that Engelbird was a different bird, so this is where the story gets interesting!

It's a fact that every year many birds fly south for the winter, so they can prune their feathers in the warm sun. But Engelbird wondered, *what would happen if I stayed?* There are other birds who stay: cardinals, chickadees, sparrows and blue jays to name a few.

The Winter Solstice was approaching quickly and all of the starlings were scheduled to have left before the deep cold set in.

But not Engelbird! Not this year!

Engelbird was determined to do things their way and to stay home for the winter to bask in the COLD!

So they did!

And they loved it!

Snow glorious snow!

Snow angels and snowbirds and snow flakes and bird feeders filled with food. They befriended nut hatches and juncos and enjoyed long cosy nights cuddling with big fluffy blue jays in nests stuffed with fallen leaves. Even the squirrels with their big bushy tails became like family.

Engelbird didn't feel different anymore. Engelbird found a way to belong.

They were famous among all of the creatures for being the starling that stayed home and were celebrated for their bravery, originality and determination.

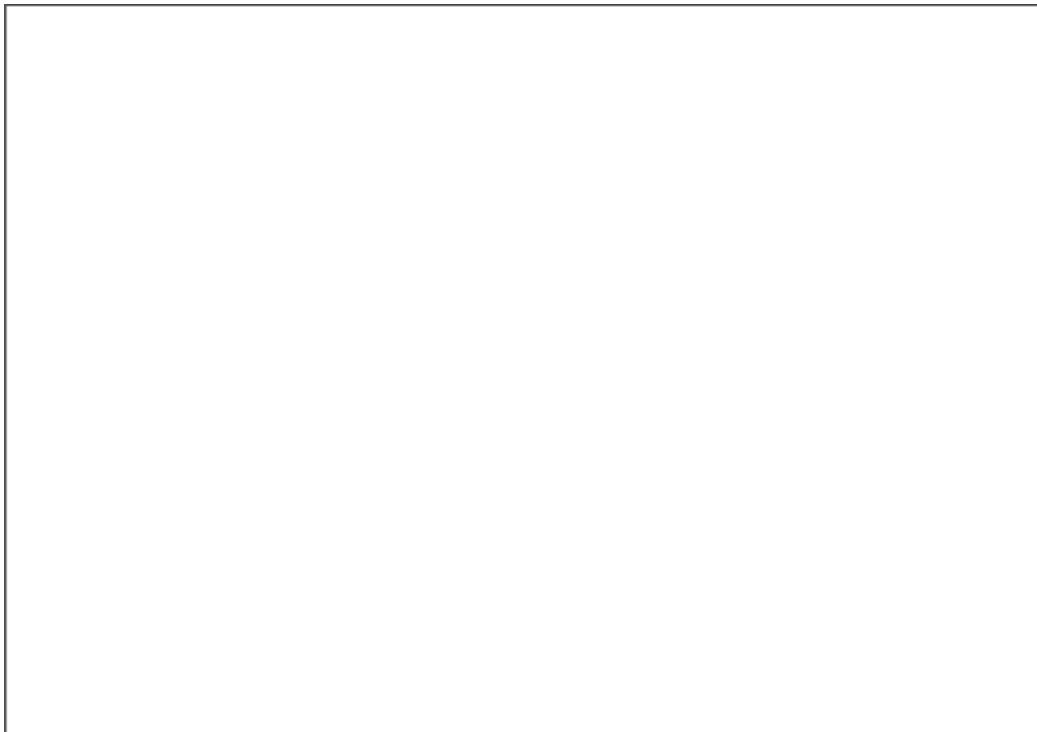
In fact, Engelbird started a revolution! A few starlings stayed behind each Winter and created a unique flock of free thinking birds who were different yet wonderful and free to celebrate the joy and magic of Winter.

Big Questions for Little Humans

*Reading Guide: Print this document and be sure to give your little humans the colouring sheet that's included on page 4. The adult is the listener and must make sure to be free from distractions and not correct or coerce the conversation. Take a deep breath and start with the words, "**Will you tell me...**"*

- Can you describe Engelbird? What makes them the same as the other birds? What makes them different?
- Describe yourself. What makes you the same as other kids? What makes you different?
- Can you relate with Engelbird? Was there ever a time when you wanted to do things your way? Or can you imagine a situation where you would like to do things your own way? At school? In sports? At home? We encourage you to use your imagination and create a scenario where you are following your heart even if you are the only one.

Illustrate the scene (real or imagined) HAVE FUN! You can turn the page over if you want more space!



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