Active Reading

Questions about textual comprehension.
1. Which of the feeling words were familiar to you? Which were new (bliss, hate, longing)?
2. Pick one feeling word that felt new or less familiar. Taking the illustrations and text as clues, how would you explain this feeling to a friend? How would you act it out?
3. What is one feeling you’d like to add to this book?
4. What is your favorite illustration? What part of it do you like?

Reflective Reading

Questions about specific feelings and the way students feel them.
1. “Excitement races to a friend with a newly discovered book.” What else does excitement do?
2. “Courage takes a rest in the very heart of the forest.” When have you felt courage?
3. “Calm pets a dog.” What feeling do you get when you pet a dog?
4. “Loneliness trudges through the desert.” Have you ever felt alone? What did it feel like?
5. Jitters has a “favorite hiding place, without a door or windows” in a dark corner under a wardrobe. What is your favorite hiding place when you feel jittery or nervous?
6. The first emotion in the book is curiosity: “Curiosity always climbs as high as possible – to the treetop, the roof, or the chimney.” Why do you think curiosity is so important?
Elsewhere Editions, the international children’s imprint of Archipelago Books, is devoted to translating luminous works of children’s literature from beyond our borders. These titles will enrich children’s imaginations and cultivate curiosity about other cultures, as well as delight book lovers of all ages with their humor, art, and playful spirit. Our books show faith in children as enthusiastic, sensitive, and serious readers.

About the book:
What Feelings Do When No One’s Looking features an unruly cast of emotions come alive. With more than 20,000 copies sold in Poland, What Feelings Do has not only encouraged children to develop compassion and empathy, but also invites them into encounters with complex emotions.

About the Author:
Tina Oziewicz is a Polish author and translator of children’s literature. While working as a translator and teacher, she began writing stories for children and published her first picture book in 2007. She has since published ten works of children’s literature.

About the Illustrator:
Aleksandra Zaja ́c, a graduate of the Art Department at Opole University, works on graphic design, drawing, and modeling in clay. What Feelings Do When No One’s Looking is her debut publication.

About the Translator:
Jennifer Croft was awarded the International Booker Prize in 2018 and was named a National Book Award Finalist for her translation from Polish of Olga Tokarczuk’s Flights. A founding editor of The Buenos Aires Review, she divides her time between Buenos Aires and Los Angeles.
Which feelings do you feel the most? Circle three from the list below.

Curiosity    Trust
Joy          Anxiety
Gratitude    Nostalgia
Jitters      Kindness
Imagination  Excitement
Calm         Anger
Envy         Fear
Insecurities Bliss
Freedom      Longing
Hospitality  Hope
Compassion   Loneliness
Shame        Hate
Pride        Friendship
Courage      Love
Happiness
Patience
Sadness

“Curiosity always climbs as high as possible – to the treetop, the roof, or the chimney.”

Follow curiosity up to the treetop, roof, or chimney. Draw a picture of what you see.
“Friendship sits down beside you when you trip and fall.”

Draw a picture showing what friendship looks like to you.

What feeling do you think is inside you right now? Draw how it might look in the mirror. What facial features or clothes would it have?