

# The Last Leaf : Talking Points

1. Crinkle realizes he is the last leaf left on the tree and he feels Both excited and afraid.


- Why Do you think Crinkle felt excited at being the very last leaf?
- Why do you think Crinkle felt afraid at being the very last leaf?
- Has there been a time when you felt excited at having to accomplished something you didn't think you would be able to do?
- Has there been a time when you felt scared at having to accomplish something you didn't think you would be able to do?

2. Crinkles almost cries when his friends make fun of him because of his unusual color and shape.

Crinkles feelings are hurt when Caterpillars looking for shelter never chose him because his shape is unusual.

Crinkle doesn't understand why he looks different from the other leaves.

- Have you ever been in a situation where someone made fun of you for the way you look and how did that make you feel?
- Have you ever laughed at someone or chose not to play or talk with someone because they looked different from you? How do you think that may have made that person feel?



Crinkle finds out that leaves always end up falling off a tree and this Scares him. Gus, the largest leaf, helps Crinkle to feel better by telling him how leaves become part of the life of the tree once again even after they have fallen to the ground.

- Have you ever felt afraid about something and then talked to a teacher or parent about it and they helped to explain things and you felt better afterwards?
- Have you ever seen leaves late in the winter in the soil beneath a tree? Describe what you have seen and what you think may be happening to the leaf?

4.

When Spring arrives a new small twig begins to grow in the very same spot where Crinkle had been holding onto the tree. This twig turns out to be Crinkle and soon grows into a new, magnificent branch. All the leaves that had made fun of Crinkle for being different now admire him and are proud to know him. Crinkle has grown and changed shape but he is still Crinkle!

- Can you think of something Crinkle does when he is a leaf that makes him special enough to turn into a strong and beautiful branch in the Springtime?
- What do you think Crinkle's hard work and positive attitude helped him to learn?
- Do you think that Crinkle might become a tree if he tries hard enough?
- Is there something you can't do now but if you work hard enough and keep a Positive attitude you might be able to achieve in time?