



Inspire Your Reader: Spark a Conversation!

BRANCHES books, which bridge the gap between leveled readers and early chapter books, now include thought-provoking questions at the end of each book! Subversively educational, these questions check for your reader's understanding alongside illustrations and favorite characters.

Included here are the questions that correspond to each of the **BRANCHES** books – use them to engage your child in a conversation about what they have read and to reinforce their critical thinking skills.

With these questions for each book, you can guide your young reader in:

- Identifying key ideas and details
- Understanding craft and structure
- Building foundational skills through phonics, word recognition, and fluency
- Acquiring new vocabulary

Happy reading with **BRANCHES**!

[SCHOLASTIC.COM/BRANCHES](https://www.scholastic.com/branches)



LOONIVERSE

How much do you know about Stranger Things?



Looniverse is a made-up word.
What two words were **combined**
to make up the word *Looniverse*?

What **strange** thing
happens the first time
Ed touches the coin?



What are the **two** meanings
of **curiosity** on page 5?

How does Ed figure out who the **Stranger** is?

On page 50, Mr. Sage tells Ed that
both Einstein and Picasso were
considered a bit **strange**.

Choose an artist, inventor,
or other amazing person
to research. What makes
that person both **strange**
and **amazing**?



LOONIVERSE

How much do you know about Meltdown Madness?



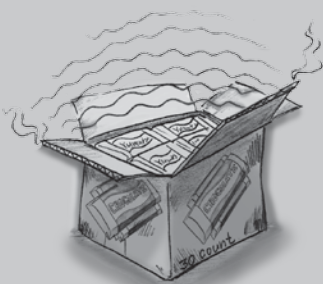
Look at the front cover of the book. What is happening in this picture and **why** is it happening?

How does Derwin **change** the weather outside?

“When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” What does this saying mean? How does it help Ed solve his problem?

Why does Ed **read** *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* to his sister?

What kind of **strange** things might have happened if Ed had **picked** wrapping paper to sell instead of chocolate? Write about it!



LOONIVERSE

How much do you know about Dinosaur Disaster?



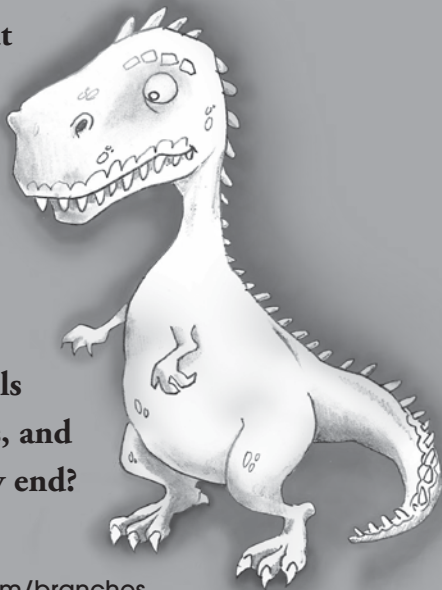
Look at pages 18 and 43. What do Ed and Libby each want to do with dinosaurs? How are their ideas **different**?

What do people usually mean when they say, “**A fine kettle of fish**”? Reread pages 59-60 for clues.

How do Libby’s feelings toward dinosaurs **change** throughout the book?

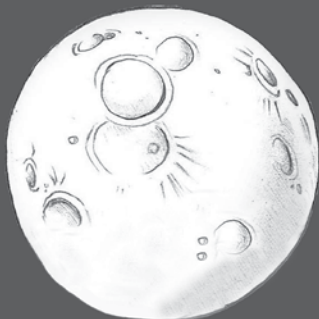
How does Ed finally solve the **dinosaur disaster**?

Write a story about having a **pet dinosaur**. Include a clear sequence of events. Give details to **describe** actions, thoughts, and feelings. How does **your** story end?



LOONIVERSE

How much do you know about Stage Fright?



Look at the **picture** on page 19 and **describe** what is happening.

The root word **amph** means “on both sides” or “around.” What do you think the word **amphitheater** means? Reread page 11 and look at the picture for help.

What is Ed’s **big plan** to lose the play-writing contest? Does it work?

Pretend you have to write a play for a contest. Make sure to include a title, main characters, the setting, and write about two events that take place. Make it as **wacky** as you want!

How does Ed save himself and his friends from the extra **strangeness** caused by the blue moon?

