Tips:

- **Life Science Icons**

  The stories in this ***Imagine That!*** book are all images of Life Science. You will find examples of anatomy, adaptation, symbiosis-interdependency, photosynthesis, ecosystems, predator-prey interaction, use of matter-energy, and reproduction. Subjects include plants, animals, and more. The principles in these stories align with many state science curriculum standards. Look for the icons near the title of each story to see which principle it demonstrates best. Some stories are examples of several different principles, but we have chosen to use the icon that best fits the main idea of the story.


Adaptation


Photosynthesis


Anatomy


Predator-Prey Interaction


Ecosystems


Reproduction


Matter-Energy


Symbiosis-Interdependency

- **Story Arrangement**

  Although all the stories in this volume are written at a sixth- to eighth-grade *decoding* level, the goal is to improve *comprehension*. Therefore, you may wish to read the stories with or to students struggling with decoding at these levels. The story content is appropriate for middle school. Within each section, stories have been sequentially ordered to increase in conceptual difficulty.

- **Illustrations**

  Illustrations have been provided for stories that contain unfamiliar subjects.

23 Miracle Grow

The amazing axolotl, or Mexican salamander, can regrow parts of her own body. If a fish swoops down and bites off her leg, the leg will regrow in a few months. Crush a section of her spine or cut off her jaw, and soon she'll have a new one. She can even regrow parts of her own brain. She heals without scarring, and shows no trace of any injury. Doctors study axolotls to see if they can mimic how axolotls grow new tissue.

From what you pictured...

1. Why do you think it might be useful to grow a leg back?
2. Do you think the axolotl cares if her leg gets bitten off? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think it is important that the axolotl can grow back her own *brain*?
4. Do you think axolotls live longer than other salamanders? Why or why not?
5. Why do you think doctors want to mimic how the axolotl grows new tissue?