



## Reading Group Questions

1. Charles Schulz's family and most of his teachers gave him a lot of encouragement, but one teacher was critical of his drawings. How have people reacted to your drawings?
2. Charles Schulz played baseball and hockey, and these sports were featured in the *Peanuts* comics. How do the activities you like to do cross over each other? Do you like to read books about ballet or watch movies about soccer?
3. The *Peanuts* characters changed over the years. They started out being kind of mean to each other; then they became more thoughtful. How have you changed? Do you think about things like your friends, your family, your school differently now than you used to?
4. Charles Schulz almost gave up drawing when his cartoons were not included in the school yearbook. Discuss a time you were discouraged. How did you react?
5. At first, Sparky didn't like the name "Peanuts" for his comic strip, but he accepted it in order to make his dream of becoming a real cartoonist come true. How have you had to compromise? How do you decide when to be flexible?
6. Sparky was happy to give advice to young cartoonists. Whom would you ask for advice? What would you ask them?
7. Charlie Brown never wins at baseball, Lucy always moves the football he tries to kick, and his kite usually ends up in a tree. But, he keeps trying! How did Sparky benefit from trying over and over? How have you had to keep trying until you succeeded?
8. Charles Schulz lived a long life and made many people happy with his art. What artists have made you happy? They can be cartoonists, singers, writers, actors or anyone who creates something you enjoy. What about their work makes you happy?

