

## BLUEY EPISODE GUIDE

# Born Yesterday

Grade 3 · Age 8

<b>Episode Name</b>	Born Yesterday
<b>Season &amp; Episode</b>	Season 3, Episode 6
<b>Age Group</b>	Grade 3 (Age 8)
<b>Key Concept</b>	Rules aren't arbitrary — they're shortcuts for things too complex to explain every time, and trust is what makes them work

## ABOUT THIS EPISODE

Bluey and Bingo are asking the questions all children eventually ask: why do we have to listen to grown-ups? Chilli's answer — “because I've been on this planet longer than you” — is honest and deeply unsatisfying. When Bandit announces he “wasn't born yesterday,” the girls seize on it: what if he was? Dad's memory gets wiped. The kids become his guides to everything — grass, sunlight, food, strangers.

When Bandit discovers food, he snatches Lucky's Dad's meat pie right out of his hands. The girls are horrified. “You can't just take people's food!” Bandit asks why. And Bluey, trying to explain property rights to someone with no frame of reference, finds that she can't. She has no argument. She can only say: “You just have to trust us. We've been on this planet longer than you.” She hears her mother's words come out of her own mouth. At the end, Bandit sits in the backyard examining a leaf with genuine wonder — and the girls, without being asked, go inside and unpack the dishwasher.

## WHY IT MATTERS (FOR PARENTS)

This is one of the cleverest role reversals in the entire series, and for an eight-year-old beginning to question authority in earnest, the timing is perfect. The game doesn't teach Bluey that rules are always right. It teaches her something more nuanced: that most rules can't be fully explained to someone without the frame of reference to receive the explanation. Trust is what fills that gap.

The moment Bluey echoes Chilli's words is the episode's heart. She didn't accept her mother's reasoning at the start. She had to discover it herself, from the other side, in the middle of a game. That's how eight-year-olds actually learn the things that matter — not from being told, but from finding their way to understanding through experience. The dishwasher at the end is the proof. Nobody explained it. Nobody asked. They just knew.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (FOR YOUR CHILD)

1

*Bluey couldn't explain to Dad why he can't take someone's pie. She just said 'trust us.' Have you ever been told to trust a rule without understanding why? How did that feel?*

2

*At the end, Bluey and Bingo unpacked the dishwasher without being asked. Why do you think they did that? What changed?*

3

*Dad kept wanting to tell strangers about the sun. The girls said it just 'makes trouble' to explain things. Why does knowing something make you want to share it?*

4

When Dad discovered food for the first time, he said 'I feel like a new dog.' What would it be like to taste food for the very first time? What would you want to try?

5

The girls decided to stop explaining things and just let Dad enjoy looking. Is there a difference between understanding something and enjoying it?

## AFTER THE EPISODE — ACTIVITIES & EXTENSIONS

### Try one of these to keep the learning going:

- Play Born Yesterday. One person 'arrives on earth' and encounters three ordinary objects or situations for the first time. The other person has to explain the rules around them — why we don't take people's food, why we knock before entering, why we queue. Notice which rules are easy to explain and which ones you just 'know.'
- Ask your child to pick one household rule and explain it to someone who has never heard of it — without using the words 'because' or 'that's just how it is.' If they get stuck, sit in that moment together. That's where the interesting conversation lives.
- Talk about a rule you follow that you can't fully explain — a social norm, a family habit, a cultural practice. Let your child see that adults carry unexplained rules too, and that 'it works' is sometimes the only honest answer.
- Ask question five together and give it time: is there a difference between understanding something and enjoying it? What do we lose when we over-explain wonder? What do we gain?

*Tip for parents: The dishwasher ending is quiet and easy to miss, but it's the episode's most important moment. Nobody told the girls to do it. Nobody bargained or rewarded them. They understood — from the inside — why it was the right thing. If that's what you're aiming for with your eight-year-old, this episode is a more powerful argument for it than any explanation you could give.*