BLUEY EPISODE GUIDE

Stickbird

Grade 1 · Age 6

Episode Name	Stickbird
Season & Episode	Season 3, Episode 41
Age Group	Grade 1 (Age 6)
Key Concept	You can hold a hurt, name it, and choose to put it down — and sometimes the children teach us how

ABOUT THIS EPISODE

At the beach, Bingo builds a beautiful sandcraft — a stickbird — and older kids accidentally destroy it. Bluey teaches her to gather up the bad feeling and throw it into the ocean. It's a small, strange, powerful gesture. Meanwhile, Bandit sits quietly at the edge of the day, carrying something he can't name. Chilli tells him to let it go. Later, he uses the same gesture his daughter just learned.

Sometimes the children teach us.

WHY IT MATTERS (FOR PARENTS)

This episode works on two levels simultaneously. For your child: it's about what to do when something they made is destroyed, it wasn't fair, and nobody is going to fix it. The answer isn't "it doesn't matter." It does matter. The answer is that you can hold the hurt, name it, and choose to put it down. That gesture — gathering the sadness and throwing it into the water — is the kind of concrete emotional tool a six-year-old can actually use.

For you: Bandit's story runs underneath the whole episode like a quiet current. He's missing the day because he can't get out of his own head. We never find out what's weighing on him. We don't need to. The episode trusts us to recognise it. And the moment his own daughter's coping strategy becomes his is one of the most understated and beautiful things the show has ever done.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (FOR YOUR CHILD)

1	*Bingo built something beautiful and then it got wrecked. How did she feel? How would you feel?*
2	*Dad said 'when you put something beautiful into the world, it's no longer yours.' What do you think that means?*
3	*Bluey showed Bingo how to gather up her bad feelings and throw them away. Do you think that really works? Would you try it?*
4	*Dad was upset about something the whole episode, but we never found out what. Why do you think the show did that?*
5	*Have you ever made something and then it got broken or taken? What did you do with the feeling?*

AFTER THE EPISODE — ACTIVITIES & EXTENSIONS

Try one of these to keep the learning going:

- Try the gesture together. Think of something that felt unfair or that hurt. Hold your hands out, gather it up slowly, and throw it as far as you can. It's allowed to feel silly. It still works.
- Make something together at the beach, in the garden, or with sand — something temporary, something that wasn't meant to last. Talk about what it feels like to make something knowing it will be gone.
- Ask: 'Is there a feeling you've been carrying around lately that you haven't named yet?' You might need to go first. Show them it's safe to name something uncertain.
- Read or tell the story of the Stickbird together from memory. Ask your child to be Bingo, you be Bluey. Let them throw the feeling into an imaginary ocean. Ask: 'Did that help?'

Tip for parents: Question four is the one to sit with longest. The show withholds what Bandit is carrying because it doesn't matter what it is — the weight is the same regardless. Your child may not understand that yet. But asking the question plants something: the idea that adults carry things too, that not everything needs to be explained, and that sometimes you don't need to know what someone is holding to help them put it down.