



**North Carolina Humanities  
North Carolina Center for the Book-Discover Great Places Through Reading**

**Humanities Thinking Questions for 2021 Selection**

To ensure access to resources that help engage North Carolinians in meaningful conversation, NC Humanities has provided the following thinking questions for our 2021 Discover Great Places Through Reading selection, *The Edge of Anything* by Nora Shalaway Carpenter, to use with the book.

1. What does it mean to have a friendship with someone?
2. What are the characteristics of a strong friendship?
3. How can friendships be life-changing?
4. Do you think friendships can evolve and change over time?
5. Do all relationships, including friendships, have struggles?
6. What are healthy ways to work through conflict to resolve a situation?
7. How and when should someone be “forgiven?”
8. What does it mean to “grow up?”
9. What is a crossroad or turning point that you experienced that has shaped your path to adulthood?
10. How do we learn from and connect with different generations?
11. What helps you overcome challenges and adversity?
12. Do you think things happen for a reason or do you think that our actions determine how events in our lives play out?
13. How do we create our identities?
14. Society, social media, and culture influence how others define us. How do we stay true and authentic to our identity?
15. At school and in the community, what is the importance of extracurricular activities and hobbies in shaping your identity?
16. How do we become who we are?
17. How do you define “happiness” and why is it important?
18. Why is it important to consider the effects of our words and actions on others?
19. What is good mental and emotional health?
20. In what ways are self-esteem, health, and support from friends and family related?

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