

Between the Lines

To **infer** something is to draw a conclusion by looking at the facts. You might not have all the facts, but enough to make a judgment. The trick is to look very carefully at the information you do have and then try to draw a conclusion. In this activity, you will be making inferences from dialogue from *Pictures of Hollis Woods*.

Directions: Read each line or series of lines of dialogue, and then answer the corresponding questions. Make sure to have the play *Pictures of Hollis Woods* handy so that you can refer to it for more information.

1. HOLLIS: I was always trouble for somebody (Prologue)

What does this tell you about Hollis? What does she think of herself?
How do her thoughts about herself change by the end of the play?

2. JOSIE: I'd like to show you one of my favorite places. . . wait, isn't it a school day?

HOLLIS: Uh . . . no. There's no school today. (Scene 3)

What is really going on here? How does it signal that there might be a problem with Josie?

3. JOSIE: Oh, you have a wonderful eye. (Scene 3)

HOLLIS: You have a wonderful eye too.

JOSIE: We have four wonderful eyes.

What does this tell you about the relationship between Josie and Hollis.
What does it tell you about Hollis's feelings for Josie?

Write Now!

Choose one of the questions above and turn your answers into a well-organized paragraph, using details from the play to support your ideas.