ISSUES AND CRITICAL THINKING:
1) Learn some words from a different language. Translate common words such as hello, goodbye, oat, help, etc. Practice using this language to communicate with another person.

2) Identify objects that can become more than one state of matter. How do you think Alex the parrot is able to identify different states of matter?

3) “Which Way?” offers students a chance to relate to how birds communicate within a flock. In groups, have them develop a way of communicating directions (right, left, back, forward, sideways, straight) by using hand signs, verbal commands, and tapping (Morse Code). Then they will use this way of communicating to guide their “flock” to finding “food”.

4) Compare and contrast two of the species of birds from the video. Write a descriptive paragraph about each bird.

5) Discuss problems scientists could face when trying to compare the intelligence of a dolphin and a crow, a cat and a gerbil, a dog and a bat.

6) Discuss whether scientists will ever be able to communicate clearly with animals other than parrots. What species might be easiest to communicate with, and why? What species might be very difficult to communicate with and why?
GLOSSARY:

Adapt- To make suitable or fit for a specific use or situation.

Avian- Related to or derived from birds.

Cache- A hiding place, especially for storing food.

Communication- Exchange of information using sounds, symbols, signs or behavior.

Environment- The conditions that surround oneself.

Flock- A group of birds or mammals herded together.

Instinctive- A natural or inborn pattern of activity.

Intellectual- Relating to the use of intellect; the power of knowing or understanding.

Matter- A physical or natural substance whether solid, liquid, or gas.

Regurgitate- To throw or pour back.

Species- Classes of organisms having the same characteristics.