Do not envy

Title: The Green-Eyed Caterpillar  
  
Once upon a time, in a beautiful garden, lived a caterpillar named Samir. Samir had a vibrant green body and sparkling eyes. He loved exploring the garden with his friends, the buzzing bees and colorful butterflies. Samir was content and happy with his simple life.  
  
One sunny day, a new caterpillar named Aisha moved into the garden. Aisha had a dazzling purple body and shimmering wings. She was the center of attention wherever she went. All the other insects admired her beauty and praised her endlessly.  
  
As days passed, Samir noticed a feeling he had never experienced before - envy. He began to compare himself to Aisha and wished he could be as attractive as her. Samir felt sad and started distancing himself from his friends.  
  
One day, as Samir sat alone, feeling envious and blue, he noticed a friendly ladybird named Layla. Layla, who had witnessed the change in Samir's behavior, decided to help him understand his feelings.  
  
Layla sat beside Samir and asked, "Why do you look so sad, dear Samir?"  
  
Samir sighed and confessed, "I envy Aisha's beauty, Layla. I wish I could be as glamorous as she is."  
  
Layla gently smiled and said, "Samir, each of us is unique and special in our own way. Aisha may be beautiful, but she cannot be the vibrant green caterpillar you are. Envy only brings sadness and takes away the happiness from your heart."  
  
Samir pondered over Layla's words. He realized that instead of feeling envious, he should appreciate himself and his own qualities. From that moment, Samir decided to focus on building strong friendships and enjoying the simple pleasures of life.  
  
As time went by, Aisha noticed the change in Samir. She realized that true beauty comes from within. Aisha invited Samir to join her and their friends, and they all embraced him warmly.  
  
In the end, Samir learned an important lesson: to be content with who he was and not to envy others. From that day on, Samir cherished his unique green body and sparkling eyes, and the garden once again became a joyful place for him.  
  
Aiken format questions:  
1. What is the theme of this story?  
 a) Self-acceptance and contentment  
 b) Envy and jealousy  
 c) Beauty is everything  
  
2. Who helped Samir understand his feelings of envy?  
 a) Aisha  
 b) Layla  
 c) The buzzing bees  
  
3. How did Samir change after learning his lesson?  
 a) He became even more envious of others  
 b) He appreciated his unique qualities and embraced happiness  
 c) He decided to leave the garden and search for a new home  
  
Connecting the theme and the story:  
Why is it important to appreciate ourselves for who we are, just like Samir learned to do?  
 a) Allah loves us the way we are  
 b) It helps us create strong and genuine friendships  
 c) It makes us popular and powerful in the garden