

What does the author want us to understand?

He wants us to understand that sometimes we make the stereotypes about certain things subconsciously, and out of more ignorance than rudeness or unkindness. He also wants us to understand that you need to know more than one side of a story to have an unbiased opinion on something. Humans also tend to think that other people are better off than themselves because they have not experienced the lives that other people have. The stereotypes that people make through ignorance are often wrong and biased, and can sometimes be harmful to the people that the stereotypes are about, so people should stop making subconscious stereotypes of each other out of ignorance.

Provide support from the text.

- “And the teachers were people...”
- “Margie was thinking about how the kids must have loved it in the old days. She was thinking about the fun they had.”
- “They had a special building and all the kids went there.” “And all the kids learned the same thing?” “Sure, if they were the same age.”
- “She was thinking about the old schools they had...All the kids from the whole neighborhood came, laughing and shouting in the schoolyard, sitting together in the schoolroom, going home together at the end of the day. They learned the same things, so they could help one another on the homework and talk about it.”
- “School? What's there to write about school? I hate school.”