EXERCISE: Can things have purposes?

Does the telephone have a purpose—or do people who make and use telephones have purposes?
Does a rock have a purpose—or can people use rocks for certain purposes which they (the people) have?
Do your shoes have a purpose—or do you have a purpose in wearing shoes?
Which of the following have purposes?

1. a person going to a store for groceries
2. a cat crossing the street
3. a tree growing in a forest
4. a window in a house
5. the sun rising
6. a new tooth coming in
7. a book standing on a shelf
8. a person lying on the ground
9. a refrigerator in a kitchen
10. a doctor telling you to stand on a scale

DISCUSSION PLAN: Purposes as reasons for doing something

2. Do you have a purpose in going to school?
3. Do you have a purpose in sleeping?
4. Do you have a purpose in eating?
5. Do you have a purpose when you play?
6. When you smile, do you do so “on purpose”?
7. When you sneeze, do you do so “on purpose”?
8. Is “doing something on purpose” the same as “doing something purposely”?
9. Does everyone have to have a purpose for everything they do?
10. What is the difference between a purpose and a dolphin?

(This discussion plan has been amended to make it less dependent on the Kio and Gus novel)