

The Quest for Cleverness

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Adventure, Travel, Self Confidence, Magic, Giants, Growth, Transformation

Book Brief: What will a lazy prince discover when he ventures into the land of the giants?

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Aga Mazzota



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What makes a person smart? Who decides if someone is smart?”

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, pay attention to what makes Alfonso’s attitude towards learning change.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding and make connections:

- Why did the wise men give up on helping Alfonso get interested in learning?
- Which method of learning would you prefer? Listening and reading or exploring, why?
- Why do you think Alfonso was not interested in learning? What makes you interested or uninterested in learning?
- What are some of the choices that Alfonso made on his travels that proved that he was smart?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: Have students reflect on something they were previously not interested in learning about, but now like learning? What made them change their minds? They can discuss in pairs or write about it.

Extending Our Thinking: Have students match pictures of the animals that Alfonso bought to text or pictures showing how he used them to help save the princess.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content such as [Here be Dragons](#) and [The Spell of a Story](#).