



The Compass of Life

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Curiosity, Discovery, STEM

Book Brief: Little Albert gets a cool gift – where do you think it will lead him?

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Manuel Mal

BEFORE READING

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

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "What makes you curious? Have you ever wondered why something happens the way it does?" Explain to students that this story is about real events, but it is told like a story with characters, a setting, and events in order.

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

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, pay attention to the important events in Albert's life. Think about how each event connects to help him become a scientist."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How does the compass make Albert feel? What questions does it raise?
- Who is Max and how does he help Albert?
- How does reading books change Albert's understanding of the world?
- Why do you think the compass was such an important gift for Albert?



Think Aloud: "First, the compass makes Albert wonder how it works. Then he experiments with magnets, meets Max who shares books, and reads more about the universe. Each experience leads to the next, deepening his passion for understanding how the world works."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What were the important events in Albert's life? How did each event connect to lead him toward becoming a great scientist?"

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, "What object or experience has made you curious about how the world works?" Encourage students to draw or write about something that makes them curious (a toy, tool, weather, etc.) and write one question they have about how it works. Students can share their curiosity questions with the class.

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- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit www.Skybrary.org to learn more.
- 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.