

ALSF Lesson Plans and Activities

Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand

Reading Comprehension Questions: Upper Elementary Skill Level



About Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is a national childhood cancer foundation dedicated to raising funds for research into new treatments and cures for all children battling cancer and providing support to families of children with cancer.

ALSF was founded by four-year-old Alex Scott, who was diagnosed with cancer shortly after her 1st birthday. She started selling lemonade in her front yard and would go on to raise more than \$1 million before she passed away at the age of 8 in 2004.

Today, the movement she started has become one of the largest national pediatric cancer organizations in the United States, having raised more than \$150 million towards Alex's dream of finding a cure, funding over 800 research projects at hospitals across the country.

Before Reading

Alex is the main character of this story. What do you already know about her?

During Reading

- P. 4: Which character trait does the author use to describe Alex on this page? As we read, notice text evidence that shows Alex has this trait ('Brave').
- P. 5: It says here that Alex was sad. Do you think a person can be both brave and sad at the same time? Why/why not?
- P. 7: Do you think someone can be strong and sick at the same time? Can you make any (text-to-self, text-to-text, text-to-world) connections to this situation?
- P. 21: Why would it be important to for other kids to hold stands across the country, and not just Alex? (More stands mean more donations and awareness; more donations and awareness mean more treatments and cures)



After Reading

1. What are some traits you can use to describe Alex? Be sure to also give evidence of this trait.
2. How have you / How can you exhibit these traits in your own life?



Optional Questions

- Discuss the term 'When life gives you lemons, make lemonade' before reading and revisit this phrase after reading about Alex.
- Define 'determined' or 'determination'. Have students give a signal when they notice this word in the story. Make a note of the ways Alex is acting determined throughout.
- Discuss the term 'Role Model' before reading. What does it mean to be a role model?
 - Can kids be role models? Why/why not?
 - During reading, stop and ask how Alex is being a role model to others.
 - After reading, ask the class how they can be role models, too.

Thank you again for your interest in Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation!

We hope you will consider supporting ALSF with the help of your class, club, school, district, or community group.

Please contact our office by phone at 866.333.1213 or by e-mail at Takeastand@alexslimonade.org if you have any questions or need help getting started.

