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

1. Alex is the main character of this story. What do you already know about her?
2. It may be useful to do a ‘picture walk’ by going through some of the illustrations and having children help describe what’s happening in each one. Here is a sample guide for a picture walk:
   - P. 4: What does Alex look like on this page? (Smiling, dark curly hair)
   - P. 5: Who is on this page? (A doctor; think aloud - a doctor is involved in this story)
   - P. 8: What is Alex holding on this page? (Lemonade)
   - P. 11: What do you notice on this page? (Alex is selling lemonade)
   - P. 17: What do you notice on this page? (There are more people waiting in line)
   - P. 22-23: What do you notice on this page? (Even MORE people waiting in line)
   - P. 29: Alex looks different on this page than she did at the beginning of the story.
     - Can you tell me what’s different about her? (She doesn’t have hair)
     - Even though Alex changed on the outside throughout the story, what do you notice about the look on her face between Page 4 and Page 29? (She’s smiling in both pictures; think aloud – this might be important as we find out more about Alex Scott)
**During Reading**

P. 4: What does it mean to be brave? As we read, think about what makes Alex brave.

P. 5: Why was Alex sad?

P. 7: Make a prediction: What do you think Alex did to help herself and others too?

P. 12: One of the letters says that Alex is a Role Model. What have we learned so far about Alex that would make her a Role Model?

**After Reading**

1. How did Alex help other people in this story?
   1a. Why didn’t Alex keep the money from her lemonade stands?

2. Why do you think Alex was called ‘a brave little girl’?

3. What are some ways in which you can help other people?

**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 raising funds for ALSF in the future. Please contact our office if you need help getting started.