

ARABELLA'S ALPHABET ADVENTURE

Themes

Books

• Adventure

• Self-discovery

Exploring the Story

Before reading the story, ask the children if they think that every book has a story in it. After reading the story, discuss the different kinds of books there are and how they fill different needs in our lives. Alphabet books are for helping us learn the alphabet by teaching us to recognise letter shapes and sounds, travel books to give us information about a place we might like to visit, craft books that give us ideas and instructions on how to create a project. There are lots more different sorts of books. Can you brainstorm what some others might be? Get the children to explore the library and bring one book back to talk about with the class. Discuss the different examples the children find and fill in any different kinds that have been missed.



Although Arabella has 26 letters, she is sad that she doesn't have a single word in her pages. Arabella takes her chance to travel the world and see lots of new things as a stowaway in another book, but she finds that the book is never read before it is returned back to the library. Arabella realises that the alphabet is what all words are made of and that her job teaching children the 26 letters is a very important job indeed. Ask the children if they think books with lots of words are more important than books with just letters? Do they think they would be able to read books with lots of words without first learning just the letters?

At the end of the story, Arabella is excited to return home to the library so she can be borrowed by the children again. She loves being nestled on laps, she loves children smiling at her, she loves sleeping with the soft glow of a child's night light. Ask the children about their experiences of the library and of reading with their family at home. Do they have a routine like reading before bed, or listening to audiobooks in the car? Do they have a special place they sit and snuggle together to read? Have they ever read anywhere weird or unusual like on a trampoline or while hanging upside down? Discuss with the children the different ways we can read, sometimes we might just read the pictures, sometimes we might have someone read the words to us, sometimes we might listen to an audiobook or watch a book being read on a video, sometimes we might read by ourselves or sometimes we might take turns reading a line each. Ask the children what their favourite who, what and where of reading is.

Activities

Pop up Arabella

Arabella's Alphabet Adventure is the most borrowed book in the library. She has flaps to lift and levers to pull and is very popular with children. Use the templates included to create your own lift-the-flap picture. On the first template draw a picture on each book spine to show us what is happening inside the book, this picture will be the hidden surprise so make it fun and exciting. Colour and cut out the book spines on the second template and then glue the spines onto the first template as indicated to secure your lift-the-flap.

Amazing Alphabet

As a class, can you design an amazing alphabet? Have a look through *Arabella's Alphabet Adventure* and see how each letter is a different design. Some are fancy, some are wiggly, some include pictures or are made to look like different objects. Give each child a sheet of paper and an assigned letter of the alphabet. Ask them to create an amazing letter using pencils, paints, glitter, ribbon or any other items you may have in your craft stash. For younger children you might like to preprint a template of the letter for them to use. Once everyone has finished, string up your letters to form an amazing alphabet bunting to hang in the classroom.

Glow-in-the-Dark

All the letters in *Arabella's Alphabet Adventure* are special. There's a glow-in-the-dark G and an S dazzled in a galaxy of silver stars. Create your own glow-in-the-dark artwork using black card stock and glow-in-the-dark glue. Use a pencil to lightly draw stars, moon, planets, comets (and even aliens if you like) onto your black cardstock. Very carefully use the glow in the dark glue to trace over your pencil designs. Allow to dry and charge in the light before turning off all the lights and shutting the blinds so you can check out your amazing glowing artwork!

Arabella's Reading Challenge

Arabella loves being read by children and she can't wait to get back to the library so she can be borrowed again. Can you complete Arabella's reading challenge on the template provided?



Arabella's Reading Challenge!

Who

i have read with a:

Family member

Friend

Soft toy

.....

What

i have read a:

Picture book

Library book

Audiobook

.....

Where

i have read while:

Upside down

Outside

In the car

.....



