

Alba and the Ocean Cleanup
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – 3rd

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Begin by doing a picture walk with your students. Ask, “Where do you think this story takes place?”
- Build background knowledge about coral reefs by watching [this video](#) from *National Geographic Kids*.

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- Where does Alba live?
- What does Alba do every year for her birthday?
- Why do you think Alba is finding fewer and fewer objects for her collection each year? Use details from the words and pictures to support your thinking.
- Why do you think Alba’s friends left the reef?
- Where does Alba find the pearl? What happens to her?
- What did Alba dream of at night?
- Who finds Alba? What does she do?
- How does the town help make big changes?
- What happens when Alba returns home?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- On the last page of the book, there are suggestions for taking care of our oceans. Independently or in pairs, have your students select one of the suggestions and make a poster to hang up in your school that encourages everyone to do their part.
- Take action! Check out if there is an ocean or park clean up near your school or organize one yourself for your students and their families.

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 about caring for our planet such as [The Soda Bottle School: A True Story of Recycling, Teamwork, and One Crazy Idea](#) or [Riparia's River](#).