

Perfect Match

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Friendship, Perseverance, Women Empowerment

Book Brief: Althea Gibson and Angela Buxton faced discrimination in tennis but refused to give up. Inspired by Althea, Angela dreamed of winning Wimbledon with a partner. In 1956, they teamed up, relying on their strengths to succeed. Their partnership broke barriers, proving determination and teamwork could overcome prejudice.

Author:
Lori Dubbin

Illustrator:
Amanda Quartey



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Althea and Angela.

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, "Have you ever worked with a friend to reach a big goal? How did teamwork help you succeed?"

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

Purpose for Reading: "As you read, think about how Althea and Angela overcame challenges through teamwork and determination. How did their partnership help break barriers in tennis?"

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How were Althea and Angela connected?
- How did Althea and Angela end up at the same match?
- Why did Angela quit the doubles team? Infer what Angela might do next.

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: How Althea and Angela overcome challenge and help break barriers in tennis?

Extending Our Thinking: Using [RIF's Writing Template](#), have students research another athlete that broke barriers like Althea and Angela. What challenges did they face and how were they similar or different to Althea and Angela.

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 Women's History with the [Women's History Month Collection](#).