



# Alan Cracks the Code

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Passion, Discovery, STEM

**Book Brief:** The true story of Alan Turing as a young boy, who discovered his love for mathematics and patterns—and his special way of understanding the world!

**Author:**  
Storytime

**Illustrator:**  
John Joven

## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

**The Pictures:** Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask, “What do you love to do? How did you discover it was special?” (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

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

**Purpose for Reading:** “As we read, pay attention to what Alan enjoys and how he discovers his passion. Think about what makes him different from other students.”



## DURING READING

### Check for understanding & make connections:

- What subjects does Alan study at school?
- Why does Alan like being a linesman in soccer?
- What does Alan enjoy doing that other students don't?
- How does Alan use math and patterns to understand things?
- Why do you think Alan becomes interested in Einstein's theory of relativity?

**Think Aloud:** “Alan doesn't enjoy playing soccer like other kids, but he loves figuring out exactly where the ball goes. He discovers that he's fascinated by patterns and equations. His passion for math and solving problems is what makes him special.”

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** “What did Alan discover about himself and his passion? How did following his interest in math make him different?”

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students, “What are you passionate about? How can you follow your interests like Alan did?” Encourage students to draw or write about something they're passionate about or curious about (like math, science, art, sports, reading, building, etc.) and explain what makes it interesting to them. Students can share their interests and discuss how following what we love helps us discover who we really are.

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- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit [www.Skybrary.org](http://www.Skybrary.org) to learn more.
- 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 with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.