

# On a Beam of Light

## A STORY OF ALBERT EINSTEIN

### A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

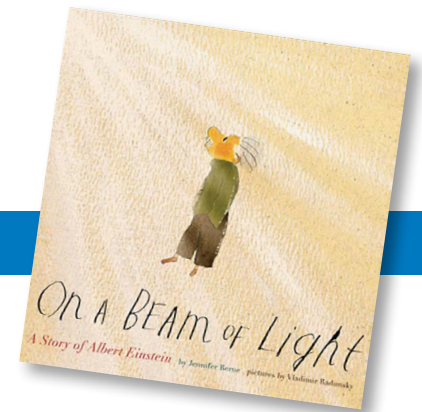
**Themes:** Science, Creativity, Biography

**Book Brief:** Curious about the mysteries of the world, young Albert is full of questions! This picture book explores the life of Albert Einstein and how he became one of the most famous scientists in history.

**Author:**  
Jennifer Berne

**Illustrator:**  
Vladimir Radunsky

**Content Connections:** Science, Social Studies



### TIME TO READ!



#### BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

**The Cover:** Ask if anyone recognizes the man on the cover. Have they heard of Albert Einstein? To what do students think the title refers?

**The Pictures:** Flip briefly through the pages. How does the illustrator capture Einstein's personality? What can students tell about him just by looking

at the pictures?

**Prior Knowledge:** Explain that Albert Einstein is a famous scientist credited with making many scientific discoveries. Brainstorm with students different kinds of scientists. What kind of scientist was Einstein?

**Vocabulary:** atoms, motion, energy

**Purpose for Reading:** Albert was always asking questions. As we read, think about questions you may have about Albert and his approach to his new discoveries.

### WHILE WE READ

#### MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ What might be a reason that Albert did not talk much?
- ◆ Is it okay to ask a lot of questions? Why or why not?
- ◆ How did Albert gather most of his knowledge?

- ◆ What strategy is Albert using when he imagines riding the beam of light? (Visualizing.)
- ◆ What can you infer about the way Albert solves problems and develops his ideas?
- ◆ What helps you think best?

### LET'S THINK ABOUT

**Our Purpose:** This story describes Albert as being different. What questions do you have about him and the theories that were discussed? How did Albert's different approach to the world help him make so many scientific breakthroughs?

**Extending Our Thinking:** What character traits would you choose to describe Albert Einstein? What would happen if people stopped asking questions? What does the term "genius" mean to you? Is there more than one way to be a genius, or do all geniuses have to be good at math, science, or another academic subject? Discuss your answer with a partner and share with the class.

#### NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is  
Fundamental