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# How to use this literary guide for Alphabet of Oreams

# by Susan Fletcher Literary Guide prepared by Val Hornburg

This is a literary guide to help teachers, book club facilitators and parents in sharing *Alphabet of Dreams*. Peruse the guide and select the parts that seem most engaging, relevant and helpful to your purposes!

#### **SECTIONS PROVIDED**

#### **PRE-READING**

- ► Summary of the book
- ► Create a notebook to use throughout the novel study (below)

### **DURING READING**

▶ Vocabulary and chapter-by-chapter comprehension questions

#### **AFTER READING**

- ▶ Discussion questions for a literature circle or book club
- Art responses
- Astronomy responses
- ► Social studies: geography responses
- ► Social studies: animal transportation responses
- Social studies: water system responses

#### CREATING A NOTEBOOK TO USE THROUGHOUT THE NOVEL STUDY:

It is suggested that students create a notebook to use throughout the novel study of *Alphabet of Dreams*, by Susan Fletcher. The notebook will hold student responses to activities chosen by the teacher and student during the novel study.

Our sample notebook is a 1" plastic view binder where a student's piece of collage or altered artwork (artistically created with mostly recycled materials) may be inserted inside the front cover. Depending upon activities chosen by the teacher, each student will also need a set of binder dividers for their work....and plenty of notebook paper for other responses.

#### CREATING AN ALPHABET OF DREAMS BINDER COVER

Students may choose to create a collage cover for the binder. Encourage students to use whatever they might have on hand for the collage including old cards, wallpaper scraps and scrapbooking materials.





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Measure the front insert of the binder cover you've chosen—the artwork we created was 9 ½" X 11" and fit our 1" view binder. Using themes, images, and words, create a collage representing your experience of reading *Alphabet of Dreams*. You may choose to collect pictures, quotes and images throughout the reading of the story. Be sure that the finished product fits into the front of the view binder.

#### LABEL TABS FOR EACH SECTION

There is a section designated for each type of response. Choose which literary responses will work best for your students. Choose from:

- 1) Vocabulary & Comprehension Questions: Chapter-by-chapter or Literature Group/Book Club Discussion Questions & Response
- 2) Art
- 3) Astronomy
- 4) Social Studies: Geography
- 5) Social Studies: Transportation
- 6) Social Studies: The Water System