

Alan's Big, Scary Teeth
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – K

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

- Start by asking, “Is there something that you love to wear? How does it make you feel when you wear it?” (Optional: Pair Share)
- Set a purpose for reading: “As we read today, think about how Alan’s teeth make him feel *confident*.”

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

- How do Alan’s teeth make him feel about himself?
- What secret is Alan hiding?
- Why is Alan feeling embarrassed?
- What other purpose does Alan find for his big, scary teeth?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- Revisit the purpose for reading: “How does Alan’s teeth make him feel confident? How does Alan learn to use his teeth in other ways?”
- At the top of a piece of chart paper, write out “Things We Love About Ourselves”. Invite each student to share their answer to the prompt. Write each student’s response down on the paper. Display on the wall to remind students what makes them unique.

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 books about confidence such as [Big](#) by Vashti Harrison.