



Alexander's Amazing Adventures

Classroom Discussion Guide

Honesty

Part 1

- What did Alexander find in the attic? (*an old book with a red cover*) What was in it? (*a map of Inland and swirly words at the top of 12 blank pages and at the end, a picture of a man who seems to be looking right at Alexander*)
- Who is the first man Alexander meets in Inland? (*the Lightkeeper*) What does the man tell him? (*that he, Alexander, is the lost prince of Inland*)
- What is the problem in Inland? (*Erodians have crept in and the Inlanders have lost their values*)
- What was stuck to the back of Alexander's test? (*the teacher's answer sheet*)
- What did Alex do? (*kept the answer sheet*)
- Would it be cheating for Alexander to check his answers with the teacher's answer sheet?
- What does it mean to be honest?
- Let's say you find a \$10 bill on the floor in a store. You've been saving up for a new bike and you could really use that money! What should you do?

Part 2

- What is the name of the animal that will help Alexander on his adventure? (*Theo, a tortoise*)
- What do Alexander and Theo find in the forest? (*a crown*)
- What is Mirabelle supposed to do with the crown? (*protect the crown from the Erodians until the new king is ready*)
- What does Alexander want to do with it? (*keep it*)
- Is Alexander being honest if he keeps the crown?
- What does it mean to stretch the truth?
- Let's say you accidentally knock a picture off the wall and the glass in the frame gets broken. Your mom doesn't hear the crash. She's way upstairs. You could just throw the glass away and put the picture back up and maybe your mom wouldn't notice. What would you do? Why?

Part 3

- What is the name of the girl Alex meets in the forest? (*Ellie*)
- What are the lies Alex tells Ellie about the crown? (*it belongs to him; he found it*)
- Should Alex have the crown? (*no*) Who should have the crown? (*Mirabelle*)
- What does Alex decide to do with the crown? (*take it to Mirabelle at Storm Haven*)
- What are the problems with telling lies or being dishonest?
- Let's say you got a bad grade on a test at school and you're pretty sure your mom and dad will be sad and mad to see your grade. Do you really have to show the test to your parents? Or can you just work hard to get a better grade next time? What would you do?

Part 4

- What is the key phrase Alex is supposed to remember? (*through the water and into the dark, the only way out is through*)
- Who does Alexander meet at the top? (*Erodian*)
- How does Alexander escape from the Erodian? (*jumps off a cliff*)
- Can you be dishonest when you don't say anything at all?
- Let's say you made a big mess with blocks. Then your little brother starts playing next to you so you take off to your friend's house. At bedtime, your mom gets angry when she sees the big mess of blocks and blames your brother since she saw him playing next to the blocks. She tells him he has to clean up all the blocks instead of listening to a bedtime story. What would you do?

Part 5

- What does Alexander do when Mirabelle opens the door? (*runs away*) Why? (*he was scared of Mirabelle*)
- What does the light keeper tell Alexander to do with the crown? (*give it back*)
- What does Alex realize about telling the truth? (*it's easier to tell the truth than to tell a lie*)
- What does Alex do with the crown? (*gives it back*)
- Is it easier to tell the truth or tell a lie? Why?
- Let's say your mom said you could have a cookie when you were done with your homework. She comes in with the cookies and asks if you did your homework. You DID do your math worksheet but you didn't do your spelling exercises yet. Would it be OK to say "yes" and take a cookie?

Part 6

- What was stuck to the back of Alexander's test? (*the teacher's answer sheet*)
- What did Alexander do with the answer sheet? (*gave it back to the teacher*)
- What was the word that Alexander found in his book? (*honesty*)
- Why is honesty important?
- What is a time you have been tempted to do something dishonest? What did you do?

Honesty Game and Discussion

Play this little game to help you discuss truth and falsehood and discuss the value of being considered truthful. Think about and discuss what makes a person trustworthy.

Instructions:

Ask children to listen carefully to each statement you say. If it's true, they should put their thumbs up. If it's false, they should put their thumbs down. If they don't know, they should put their thumbs sideways.

Examples:

- The sky is green.
- This is my foot. (*point at foot*)
- Ants are bigger than elephants.
- We see with our noses.
- You like to eat broccoli. (*some may do thumbs up, some thumbs down, some sideways*)
- (*put a coat on the ground*) I did leave my coat out.
- (*put a candy wrapper on the floor*) I don't know who left that on the floor.
- It will be rainy tomorrow. (*thumbs sideways*)

Discussion following the Game:

We all know the difference between the truth and lies. Sometimes we can tell for sure whether something that someone says is true or not. Sometimes we really don't know. They could be telling the truth, or they could be telling us a lie.

If we KNOW the person who is telling us something, we may be able to guess whether they're telling the truth or not. Some people are generally TRUTHFUL people – and if they say something, most people believe it without questioning it.

Discussion questions:

- Do you want others to think of you as a truthful person? Why?
- Do you know some people in your life who you can always trust?
- What makes you feel like you can trust them?