



Thinksheet

Rising 3rd Grade

Mae Among the Stars By Roda Ahmed

Before Reading: Examine the front and back cover. Read and think about the question below. Share with your adult.
Based on the book cover’s title and illustrations, what do you think this story is about?

During Reading: Be a Word Detective!

Look carefully for and record words below that you find interesting or do not yet know the meaning of, and look for clues in the sentence to help discover the word’s definition, or what it means.

Multiple Meanings of Words: You may also read words or phrases (groups of words) which have more than one meaning. Use clues in the phrase, sentence, or in the story to understand which meaning the words have in that context. Ex: on p.21, the author describes the main character using the phrase, “her eyes would light up.” What does this mean? (*Clue: This is a common saying that means that Mae would get excited and, with bright eyes, happily talk about her dream- to see Earth from space.*)



Complete the Sentence and Illustrate:
What do you want to do someday, or what is your dream that makes your “eyes light up”?

I want to... _____
_____.

_____’s Dream



These resources were prepared by GELF’s Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.

Access more resources at BookersBookClub.org/Activities





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Phonics Study: Words seen below contain the **digraph “ea”** The letters E and A, when used and pronounced together in a word, can make several common sounds. For example, read the phrase, "EAT BREAD and STEAK." EA makes the long e sound /E/ like in EAT, the short e sound /e/ like in BREAD, and the long a sound /A/ like in STEAK.

Phonics Word Sort: Sort and write the following “ea” words into groups with the same sound for the “ea” pattern.
ahead dream great already teacher repeat instead break yea

long e sound /E/ like in EAT	short e sound /e/ like in BREAD	long a sound /A/ like in STEAK

What Do You Hear? When you read the following “ea” word pairs, listen to the similar sounds the digraph “ea” makes in each word. What do you notice that is the same? What do you notice that is different? Share with your adult.

hear tear

Earth search

bear tear

Clue: (-r controlled long e sound /eer/) (-r controlled short er sound /ər/) (-r controlled long a sound /air/)
In each, the words, and the “ea” digraph, are r-controlled. Ask your student what (s)he notices about the words. Give them time to think about the sounds they hear in the words before you help sound out and categorize the words.
Notice; the word “tear” can be pronounced two different ways and has two different meanings! Can you name others?

Discuss After Reading: Read the title of the book and pause to think about the choice of words. Why do you think the author created this title for the book? What is the definition of the word **among**? And did Mae achieve her dream? (Clue: **among** means “surrounded by.” Substitute the definition for the word and re-read the title: Mae Surrounded by the Stars.)



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