

Aster and the Accidental Magic

Written by Thom Pico; Illustrated by Karensac

Random House Graphic
978-0-593-11884-9 | Trade Paperback
224 pages | \$12.99 | Lexile: GN400L



LESSON FOCUS

Graphic novel analysis

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Reading graphic novels requires students to synthesize what they read in the text as they interpret how visual images support the overall tone. During this activity, students will do a close read on a graphic novel excerpt while using specific questions to analyze what they see and what it makes them think.

LEARNING TARGETS

1. Students will analyze graphic novel scenes.
2. Students will use visual literacy skills to create inferences.
3. Students will cite evidence to support their inferences.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. *Aster and the Accidental Magic* by Thom Pico
2. Graphic Novel Analysis sheet

Lesson Plan *for* Marvelous Middle Grade Reads



SUMMARY

A fun, action-packed fantasy adventure about a girl, her dog, and magic gone wrong!

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

- Step 1:** Introduce the graphic novel, *Aster and the Accidental Magic*.
Students will work with the image on the title page, so do not reveal too many facts.
- Step 2:** Have students look at the image printed on the title page.
What do they see? What does it make them think?
- Step 3:** Begin recording information in the Graphic Novel Analysis sheet.

GRAPHIC NOVEL ANALYSIS QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

Use these questions to guide your inferences while close reading graphic novels.

QUESTIONS FOR A CLOSER LOOK	SUPPORT
What does the reader learn from the text?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is said? • How is the text printed? • Does the font stay the same? • How does it change? • Do any words have dual meaning?
How does the artist use:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color? • Spacing? • Lighting? • Page layout? • Size?
How does the author represent:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age? • Feelings? • Relationships? • Emotions? • Action?
How does the author use images?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are images familiar? • Are they distorted or exaggerated?
Characterization:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are all characters similar? • What makes them different? • How do characters change throughout the scene/story?
Background / extras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the artist use backgrounds? • Are images in the background familiar? • Does the background affect the overall feeling?