ABOUT THE STORY

Summary

This story follows the adventures of Marie Tharp, an American geologist who was born on July 30th, 1920 and passed away August 23, 2006. She, along with her partner Bruce Heezen, created the first scientific map of the Atlantic Ocean. Throughout her life, Tharp faced discrimination as a women during this era. She is now celebrated today as a scientist who worked hard to prove what the oceanic floors look like.

Robert Burleigh is a bestselling author who has written many books about famous figures. His stories focus on history and biographies to help teach difficult subjects through creative narratives. He was born in Chicago, Illinois.
FAMILY READING STRATEGIES TO PRACTICE AT HOME

On Level Students:

- Stop periodically to interpret the pictures in the book along with the text
- Read with emotions to create a enjoyable experience. This can also help with learning new emotions/feelings vocabulary
- Take turns reading parts of the story to practice fluency. Pause after sections to have discussions about what was just read.

English Language Learning Students:

- Wait for your child to independently correct any errors during reading. Ask him/her to try again if they skip over an error
- Look over the 'Some Words and Phrases to Know' section at the end of the book to practice decoding unknown words
- Have many oral conversations about the story to help make meaning and decoding the text.

Special Education Students:

- Set personal goals of decoding and understanding unknown words
- Use pop-up dictionaries and speech synthesis on line that can help pronounce and read new vocabulary
- Re-read the story multiple times for close reading strategies

Gifted Students:

- Praise the way your child comprehends the text rather than the child himself/herself
- Create a character analysis poster of Marie Tharp using her traits and actions with pictures and text
- Encourage questions by your child about topics such as Marie Tharp, marine biology, and social justice. Work together to find answers to as many as you can!