

Adventures with Mrs. Aldrich



Objective: To read an “adventurous” passage written by Nebraska Hall of Fame author Bess Streeter Aldrich (a short story or a portion of a novel), reveal its relevance today, and build enthusiasm to read additional stories/books

Suggested Readings: (short stories)

- Ginger Cookies
- Juno’s Swans
- Madonna of the Purple Dots
- How Far is Hollywood
- Star Across the Tracks (Christmas Story)

Suggested Readings: (book passages)

- Lantern in Her Hand, Crossing the Prairie
- Lantern in Her Hand, Building a Soddie
- Lantern in Her Hand, Having a nice Christmas passage

Suggested Activities

Tour: After you arrange a tour of the Bess Streeter Aldrich house, the adventure can begin. What can you expect? The tour guide will introduce students to Mrs. Aldrich, share a passage or story, participate in an artifact activity, and encourage students to seek additional artifacts in the 100-year-old home. The guide(s) will share Aldrich facts, and students will be encouraged to find “an Adventurous Mrs. Aldrich” logo in each room. Free bookmarks will be given to all students who find them.

After the tour: When the children have finished the tour, they will be encouraged to begin their own Adventurous Mrs. Aldrich challenge. What adventure will you organize for Mrs. Aldrich? Teachers are encouraged to find the Aldrich cut-out template on the website bessstreeteraldrich.org or request postcards from the Aldrich House and attach them to paint stir sticks or popsicle sticks for hiding purpose. From there a class project can begin. In the following weeks, each student will have their own Adventurous Mrs. Aldrich to take home and plan an

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adventure. Students can journal about the adventures they plan for Mrs. Aldrich and the stories they read. Send the Executive Director a description and picture about Mrs. Aldrich's adventures and/or tag us on social media and become eligible for prize drawings (tour passes, books, etc.) Now let's write short stories to enter in the Aldrich Short Story Contest, due April 15.

*Note: Teachers may have their students participate in this activity in their classroom without actually touring the Aldrich House and still be eligible for bookmarks/prizes.

Contact us:

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Place this image on a paint stick or popsicle stick.

The Aldrich House also has postcards of this image that can be used.