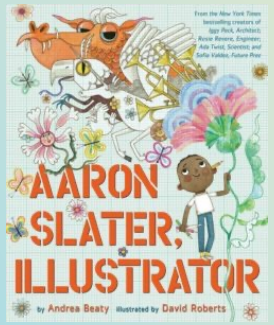
Aaron Slater, Illustrator

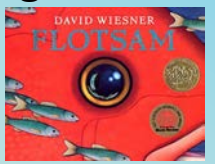
by Andrea Beaty

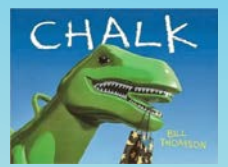


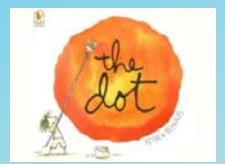
- "An uplifting story about the power of art, finding your voice, and telling your story even when you're out of step with your peers from the #1 bestselling creators of *Sofia Valdez,* and *Ada Twist, Scientist*!
- Aaron Slater loves listening to stories and dreams of one day writing them himself. But when it comes to reading, the letters just look like squiggles to him, and it soon becomes clear he struggles more than his peers. When his teacher asks each child in the class to write a story, Aaron can't get a single word down. He is sure his dream of being a storyteller is out of reach … until inspiration strikes, and Aaron finds a way to spin a tale in a way that is uniquely his."
- His art leads the way & helps him discover what he wants to say starting with pictures. Then his reading gets better with special help. Aaron has dyslexia.
- Aaron's dyslexia informs who he is, but doesn't define him. We each have our own superpowers & struggles. That's what makes us unique, beautiful, strong & important to the world like Aaron!

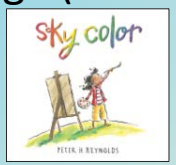
Educational Activities: Aaron Slater, Illustrator

- **Before Reading–Ask questions:**
  - Look & discuss the front & back cover including emotion felt by the boy
  - What do you already know about illustrators (or illustrating)?
  - What do you think this story will be about?
- **After Reading–Discuss:**
  - What did you think when Aaron's writing made words that were "just squiggles"?
  - Try as he might, Aaron couldn't make progress with writing. Have you ever struggled to learn something, too? How did that feel? What did you do?
  - Why did Aaron try so hard just to blend in? What "tangle of feelings" did he have inside? What did YOU feel when Miss Greer knelt beside Aaron & said "Thank you!" for sharing his creative story?
  - What do you think about this book using a typeface specially designed for people with dyslexia?
- **Drawing**–Using crayons, colored pencils, or paint, create your own "true story" about anything you want. Like Aaron, use visuals versus words to tell the story.
- **Further Reading**–Want more picture books about art and art-making? (Prior CSBF books)

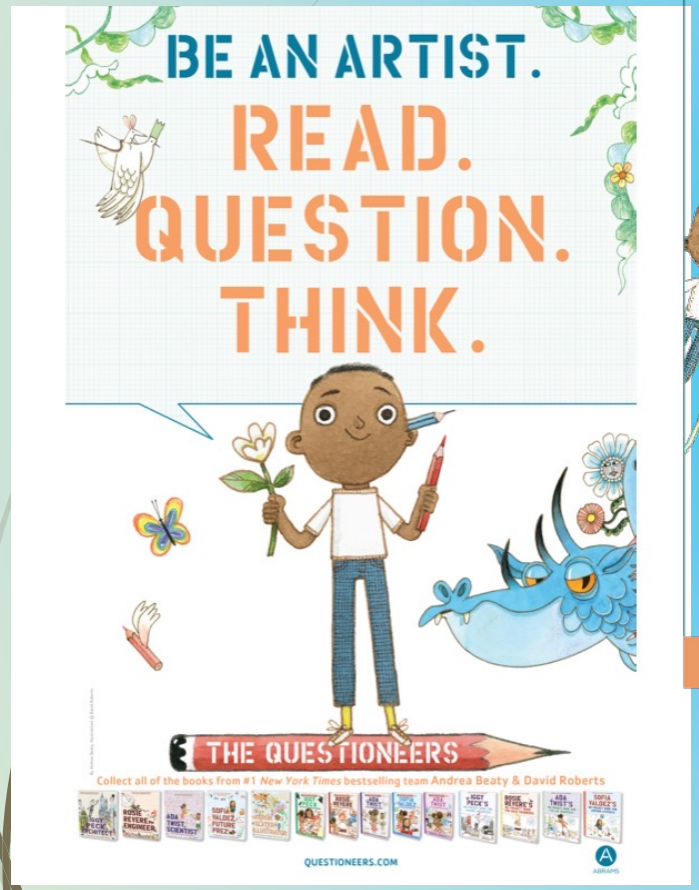



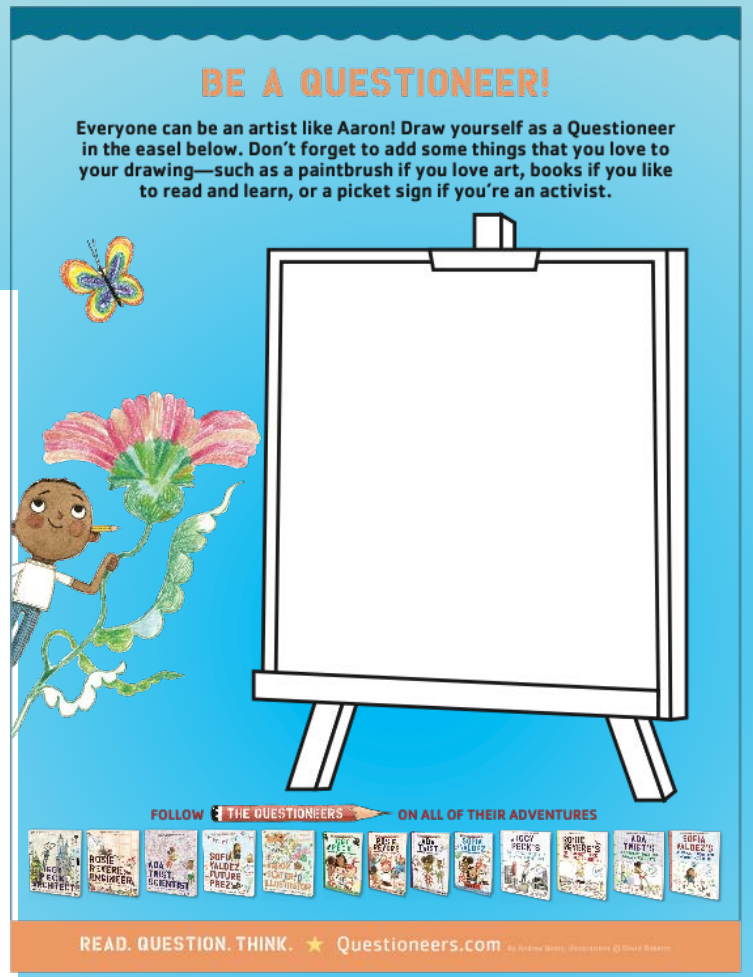


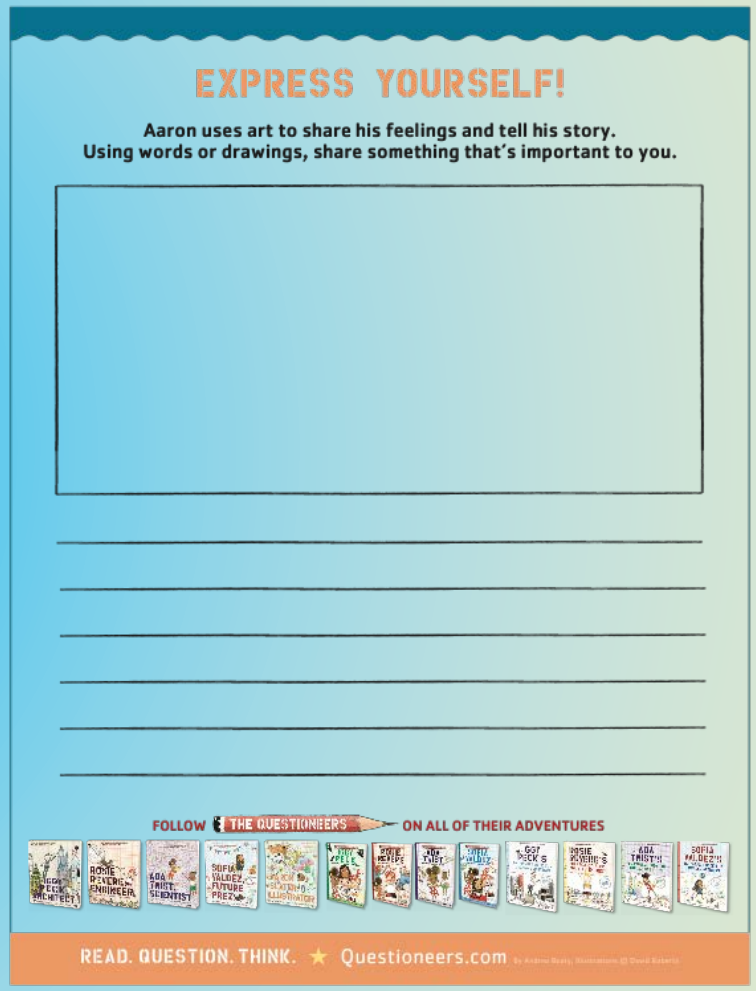







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THINK.
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QUESTIONEERS.COM


BE A QUESTIONEER!
Everyone can be an artist like Aaron! Draw yourself as a Questioneer in the easel below. Don't forget to add some things that you love to your drawing—such as a paintbrush if you love art, books if you like to read and learn, or a picket sign if you're an activist.
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EXPRESS YOURSELF!
Aaron uses art to share his feelings and tell his story.
Using words or drawings, share something that's important to you.
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