

## Discussion Questions and Activities for *Molly of Denali*

### *“Turn on the Northern Lights”*

#### *Before Vision*

- What do you predict the story will be about?
- What are the “Northern Lights”?
- Who are “ancestors”?
- What is a “prediction”?

#### *During Vision*

- Is the story matching your predictions, so far?
- Why were the kids so tired during basketball practice?
- What do the kids want to do? Why are they experiencing difficulty? Why did they need to be patient?
- Why was it difficult to predict when the northern lights would be visible?
- What did the kids learn after talking with a scientist?
- Why do you think some say the northern lights are ancestors dancing across the sky?

#### *After Vision*

- What are the northern lights?
- Why are the northern lights only visible in certain places and at certain times?
- What clues did the kids use from the book and internet to help them predict when they would be able to see the northern lights? When is it best to see the northern lights?

**Story Response Activity:** Use [this graphic organizer](#) to highlight the story elements related to this episode about the Northern Lights.

You also may wish to explore the following resources to learn more about the Northern Lights:

- [CBC Kids article](#) about the science behind the Northern Lights
- [National Geographic](#) time lapse video
- [Digital books about stars](#) from Scholastic and Bookflix

## *“Fiddle Sticks”*

### *Before Vision*

- What do you predict the story will be about?
- What is a “fiddle”?

### *During Vision*

- Is the story matching your earlier predictions?
- What strategies did Oscar use to help Molly learn how to play the fiddle?
- What surprise do you think Grandpa has for Molly?
- What do you think Grandpa means when he says that the sound of the drum comes from your heartbeat?

### *After Vision*

- Why do you think Molly liked the drum better than the fiddle? Why was it difficult for Molly to tell Oscar?
- If you could learn how to play a new instrument, what would it be and why?

*Follow up Activity:* You may wish to explore these resources to learn more about musical instruments: [Digital books about instruments](#) from Scholastic and Bookflix; [Children's informational text/magazine article](#) about drums from TextProject.org.