

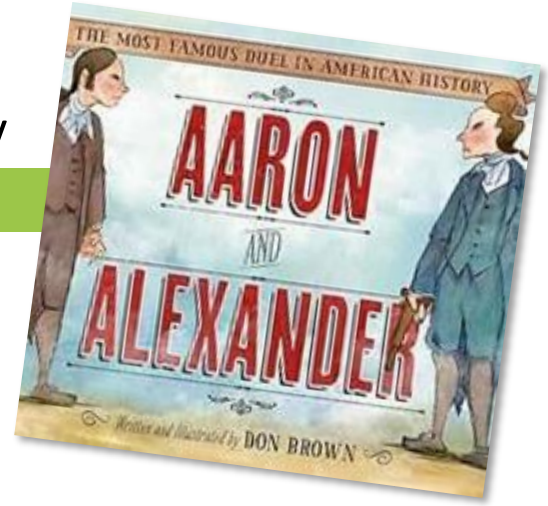
Aaron and Alexander: The Most Famous Duel in American History

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: History, Changemakers, Government

Book Brief: Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton were both fierce patriots during the Revolutionary War, but the politics of the young United States of America put them in constant conflict. Their extraordinary story of bitter fighting and resentment culminates in their famous duel.

Author:
Don Brown
Illustrator:
Don Brown



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students read the title. Ask students what they notice about the illustration on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they see, think, or wonder about the story.

Vocabulary: [Vocabulary Guide](#)

Prior Knowledge: Ask students if they have ever had conflict with a friend. Ask them to list ways to find common ground and solve conflicts. List these strategies on the board and refer to them as you read aloud.

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, listen to how these two men’s conflict changed history.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How did Aaron and Alexander grow up?
- What did Aaron and Alexander do in the war?
- What jobs were Aaron and Alexander given after the war?
- What happened to Aaron when he ran for President?
- What made Aaron challenge Alexander to a duel?
- What happened in the duel?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: How did Aaron and Alexander contribute to the world? Ask students to discuss the many contributions they made to the world.

Extending Our Thinking: Why were these two men who were so similar so angry with each other? How could they have solved their issues without bloodshed? Ask students to analyze the story and think about where they went wrong.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.