



About the Book

The Land of Dreams is a fantastic place, where wishes are born as a tiny twinkle of light in Inspiration Lake. For a dream to come true, it takes a long journey down the Path of Purpose, over the top of Challenge Mountain, and through the Swamp of Discover in order to become a gleaming star in the sky—and it will need help along the way! So, every wish has two guardians known as Dream Keepers, named “Happy Thoughts” and “Hard Work.”

Follow along as one very special wish will test the Dream Keepers, who must push themselves farther than ever before to help a special wish find its place in the sky.

The Dream Keepers is an uplifting story about facing challenges with determination, and overcoming obstacles on the way to achieving your goals.

Excerpt

Every wish has its very own pair of Dream Keepers: one in charge of Happy Thoughts and one in charge of Hard Work. Their job is to guide your wish from Inspiration Lake to its very own home in the sky. Along the way, the Dream Keepers will protect your dream and help it grow.

Reading Group Guide

Discussion Questions

1. What are some dreams that you have? How do you work to achieve those goals?
2. In *The Dream Keepers*, there are Happy Thoughts and Hard Work. How do each of these help make your dreams come true?
 - a. Why is it important to not only Work Hard, but think positively about the work you are doing?
3. How can you make sure you don't lose your Happy Thoughts while you work to make your dreams a reality?
4. Have you experienced your Happy Thoughts being taken in the wrong direction? How can you regain your focus when this happens?
5. *The Dream Keepers* mentions to celebrate progress that you have made. Can you think of ways that you can celebrate the steps you take to make a dream come true?
 - a. Why is it important to appreciate progress, not just the final product?
6. Are there any goals that you are proud of achieving?
 - a. How did you feel once you accomplished that dream?
 - b. Imagine how it may feel to accomplish your next big dream!

Extension Activities

1. Have students draw their own Dream Keepers and a goal that they want to become reality. Talk about what has inspired them to be interested in these goals and why they want to work to make their dream come true.
2. Pass out stars that students can write their dreams on. Collect and display their stars on a board and speak about how the group can support each other in their dreams and work.

Author Info

April Hartmann is an illustrator, graphic designer and writer, freelancing from her home-studio in Washington, Pennsylvania. Her illustration style is layered and textural, using the latest digital techniques to combine painterly patterns and decorative line work. She earned her BFA in Illustration (with honors) at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, and today has more than twenty years experience illustrating for books in publishing and educational markets. When not at the drawing table, she's usually involved in some other creative task like writing, decorating, or testing recipes to get her family to eat more vegetables.

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