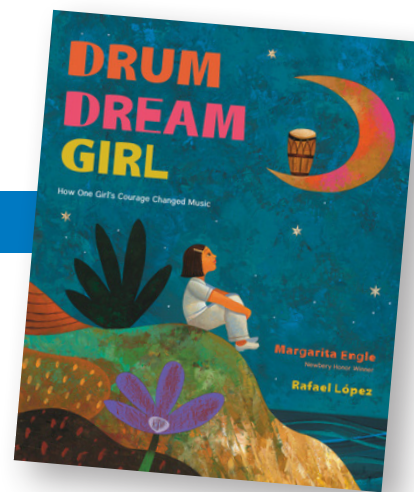


Drum Dream Girl:

How One Girl's Courage Changed Music



A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Aspirations, Equality, Leadership, Perseverance

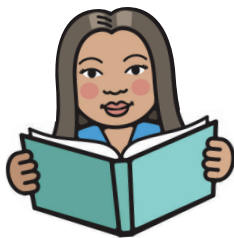
Grade Level: PreK to 3rd grade

Book Brief: Inspired by the life of a Chinese-African-Cuban girl who broke Cuba's traditional taboo against female drummers, *Drum Dream Girl* tells an inspiring true story for dreamers everywhere.

Author:
Margarita Engle

Illustrator:
Rafael López

TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build background: Talk with your child about aspirations: interests, hopes, and dreams that people develop throughout their lives. Discuss any particular interests your child has and what they would do if they were told to stop pursuing them.

While reading, make predictions: Will the *Drum Dream Girl* overcome the challenges she faces and be able to play her music out loud?

After reading, ask questions:

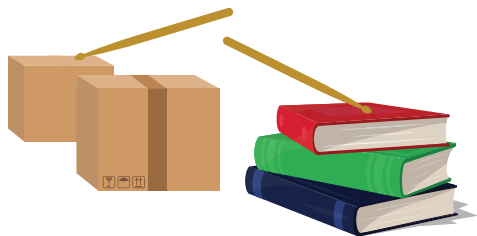
- What was the *Drum Dream Girl* dreaming of?
- Why couldn't the *Drum Dream Girl* continue playing with the all-girl band?
- Who helped the *Drum Dream Girl* get even better at drumming?
- How did the *Drum Dream Girl* and her playing in the café change people's minds about girls playing drums?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

DIY DRUMS

Materials: Found items around the house that can be used as drumsticks and drums. For example, pencils and straws could be drumsticks, and boxes and books could be drums.

Find a pair of "drumsticks" (found objects) and at least three items that can be played as drums, either three different types of drums (e.g., a pot, a box, and a book) or three varieties of the same thing (e.g., small, medium, and large boxes). Play all the drums and take note of their different sounds. Make



up names for the drums according to their sounds. For example, a quick, light sound from a tiny box might become the "PlickPlick" in your house. Play together like a band.

SELF PORTRAIT COVER

Materials: Paper, crayons/markers/colored pencils

Make a book cover that expresses one of your child's dreams. Use the cover of *Drum Dream Girl* as a guide to give the book a title and subtitle (i.e., *Bake Dream Carlos: How One Kid's Recipes Created Happiness*). Then, make a cover drawing that shows the idea and mood.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT PERSEVERANCE:

- **Little Melba and Her Big Trombone (2014)**
- **Turning Pages: My Life Story (2018)**
- **Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln (2019)**