

The image features a decorative border with various autumn elements. At the top left is an acorn. Along the top edge are several yellow and orange leaves. On the right side, there is a large red maple leaf and a smaller yellow leaf. At the bottom right is a large red mushroom with white spots and a small branch with red berries. The bottom left corner has a small branch with yellow leaves and a red leaf. The entire border is set against a light orange background.

**P.S 131 October
2025 Book of
the Month with
Resources!**

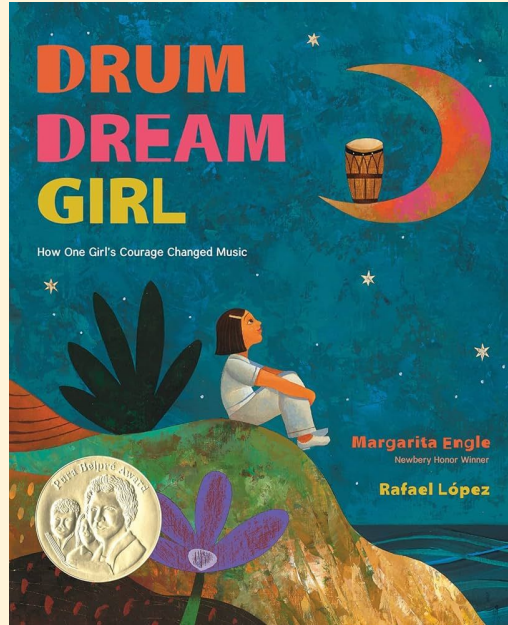
Quote of the Month

“You are braver than you believe,
stronger than you seem, and
smarter than you think.”

-Carter Crocker



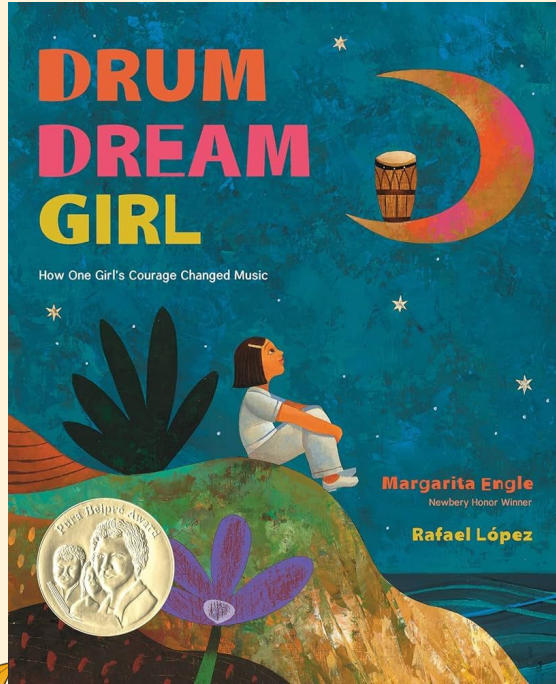
Book of the Month



Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music

By Margarita Engle

Summary



In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, *Drum Dream Girl* is a vibrant and creative storybook inspired by the true story of Millo Castro Zaldarriaga, a Chinese-African-Cuban girl who broke Cuba's traditional taboo against female drummers. In her city of drumbeats, she dreamed of pounding tall congas and tapping small bongós. She had to keep quiet. She had to practice in secret. But when at last her dream-bright music was heard, everyone sang and danced and decided that *both* girls and boys should be free to drum and dream. *Drum Dream Girl* tells an inspiring true story for dreamers everywhere, with a positive message of gender equality and dreams coming true.

Read-Aloud Video



Historical Background: Presentation and Videos

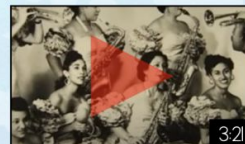
Video Examples



Anaconda in 1937 playing "Oh Marambé Maramba" with a bongo solo by Millo Castro.



Mambo Mambi performed by Anaconda ca. 1932 in Havana.



Espiritu Burlon performed by Anaconda ca. 1932 in Havana.



Many years after their rise to fame, members of Anaconda play Mi Yambu in 1984



Ashley Pérez Flanagan sings a song about Millo Zaldarriaga's life and story.



Symphony Storytime reads "Drum Dream Girl" and shares about percussion. - Oregon Symphony

Theme of the Month

Inclusion



Inclusion means making sure everyone feels safe, welcome, and like they belong in a group. Everyone can participate and feel valued.



Theme of the Month:

Inclusion

INCLUSION
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING CHOICE BOARD

1 Brainstorm ways you can include others in play. 	2 Draw a picture of you including others on a playground. 	3 Ask a grown up how they feel when others don't include them. 
4 Design a poster for inclusion. 	5 Write a skit about including others. 	6 Define inclusion in your own words. 
7 Find a book that has a main character who learns a lesson about including others. 	8 Imagine you didn't have a partner at basketball practice. How would you feel? 	



Challenge yourself to complete all the **Inclusion Choice Board Activities** this month!



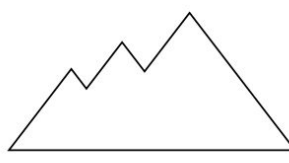
SCENARIO CARDS

INCLUSION SCENARIO CARDS 	INCLUSION SCENARIO 1 You realize everyone in your karate class is going to a birthday party besides you. How would you feel?
INCLUSION SCENARIO 2 Imagine someone in your dance class is consistently left out of playdates. How would you stand up for them?	INCLUSION SCENARIO 3 Clara wants to leave Kara out on purpose. What would you say to Clara?
INCLUSION SCENARIO 4 Rebecca wants to go to Johnson's house after school with Monique, but she wasn't invited. What could Rebecca do?	INCLUSION SCENARIO 5 You accidentally leave Jo out of the game you are playing at the park. How would you fix it?

I AM PERSISTANT!

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS: DRAW A PICTURE OF YOU OVERCOMING AN OBSTACLE ON THE MOUNTAIN.



DIRECTIONS: WRITE ABOUT A TIME THAT YOU HAD TO STICK TO A DIFFICULT OR CHALLENGING ACTIVITY AND COMPLETE THE TASK!

MAKE A PLAN!

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS: WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU WANT TO IMPROVE IN, GET BETTER WITH OR JUST KEEP WORKING ON?

DIRECTIONS: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO MAKE A PLAN TO PERSIST AND NEVER GIVE UP ON YOUR GOAL.

WHAT MATERIALS DO YOU NEED TO PRACTICE?

WHERE DO YOU NEED TO BE TO PRACTICE?

HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU PRACTICE?

WHO DO YOU NEED TO HELP YOU PRACTICE?

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

DIRECTIONS: REFLECT. HOW DID YOU PLAN TURN OUT? WERE YOU PERSISTENT?

Habit of Mind: Persisting

INSTEAD OF... TRY SAYING...

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS: REWRITES ALL OF THE STATEMENTS BELOW TO SHOW A PERSISTENT MIND. THE FIRST ONE IS DONE FOR YOU!

INSTEAD OF SAYING...	TRY SAYING...
I CAN'T DO IT.	I CAN DO ANYTHING IF I TRY MY BEST!
I GIVE UP.	
I WON'T FINISH THIS IN TIME.	
HE'S BETTER AT THIS PROJECT THAN ME.	
I MISSED THE SOCCER GOAL, AGAIN.	
I DIDN'T GET A GOOD GRADE ON MY MATH TEST.	

DIRECTIONS: WRITE YOUR OWN STATEMENTS!

Click to view resources and activities that support **persisting**!

Persisting



Stick to it!

Persevering with a task through to completion; remaining focused. Searching for ways to reach your goal when stuck. Not giving up.



Executive Functioning Focus:

Perseverance

Perseverance



Being able to stick with a task and not give up, even when it gets challenging.

--- Examples In Action ---

www.thepathway2success.com

Using strategies to keep working through on a challenging task



Using positive self-talk to stay motivated

Asking for help when you need extra support



Name: _____ Date: _____

Skill 10: Working Through Challenges

Working through challenges means doing your personal best, even when something is hard! Working through challenges is good because it makes us smarter and stronger!

LET'S THINK

When you come across something tough, what can you do? Check off each strategy as you read.

You can:

- ☐ Check the directions again.
- ☐ Stop and think, "What should I do?"
- ☐ Try a different way.
- ☐ Look around and see what others are doing.
- ☐ Try to move on and come back later.
- ☐ Ask a friend for help.
- ☐ Ask an adult for help.



© 2017 Pathway 2 Success

Name: _____ Date: _____

Skill 10: Working Through Challenges

Challenges can be lots of different things. You might have a tough math test, a fight with a friend, or need to move to a new school. Those are all challenges.

LET'S THINK

Tell about a time you had a challenge that you worked through.

A large empty rectangular box with a yellow border, intended for a student to write about a challenge they worked through. A small ribbon icon is in the top right corner.

© 2017 Pathway 2 Success

I Can Persevere

Work Hard



Use My Strategies



Achieve My Goals



© 2017 Pathway 2 Success

Limited print copies of “**Drum Dream Girl**” are available for checkout in the school library (Room 212). Please visit or reach out to Ms. Keiser at dkeiser@schools.nyc.gov if you would like to borrow a copy.

