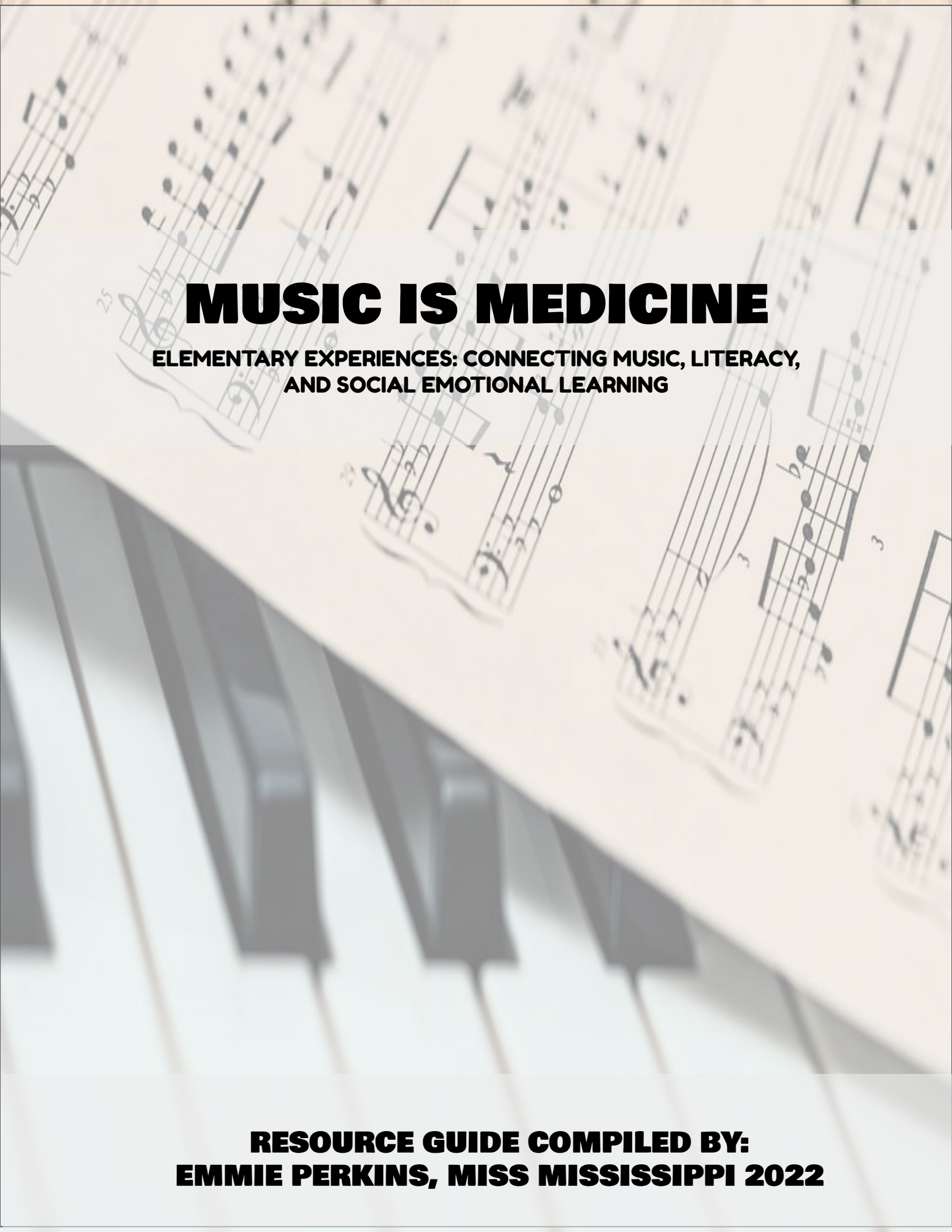

MUSIC IS MEDICINE

ELEMENTARY EXPERIENCES: CONNECTING MUSIC, LITERACY, AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

RESOURCE GUIDE COMPILED BY:
EMMIE PERKINS, MISS MISSISSIPPI 2022

Introduction

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If music and the arts have the power to impact just one child through Music Is Medicine, then I have done my job.

I discovered my love for the arts and music in the 4th grade. I was fortunate enough to have parents that helped foster my dreams and a public school system that celebrated the importance of the arts as well. Having access to the arts in my high school was a part of my purpose and served as an outlet for me from the world around me.

Working closely with state leaders, I am helping to raise awareness and attention to the crucial need for the arts in all school systems.

I created this guide as a costless yet priceless resource for all students and educators to enjoy. Everyone can enjoy music in some shape or form. The arts and music see no age, race, or socioeconomic background.

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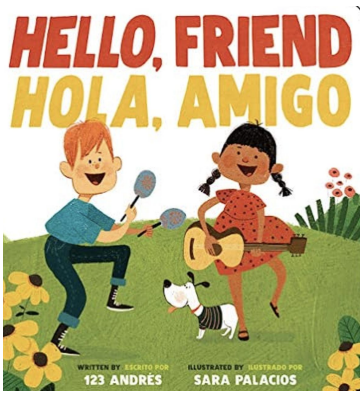

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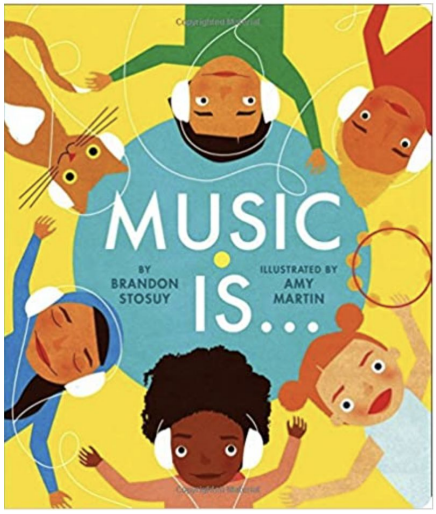

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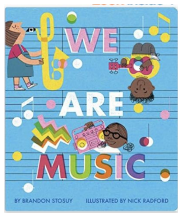
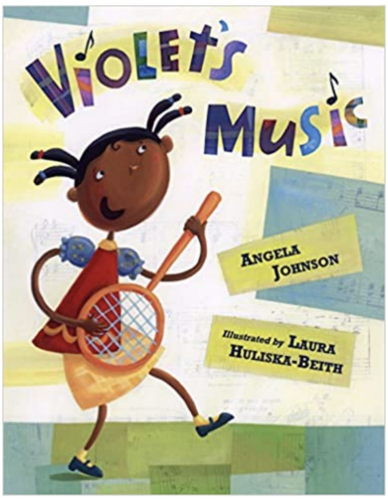


This excellent read-aloud is done in English and Spanish.



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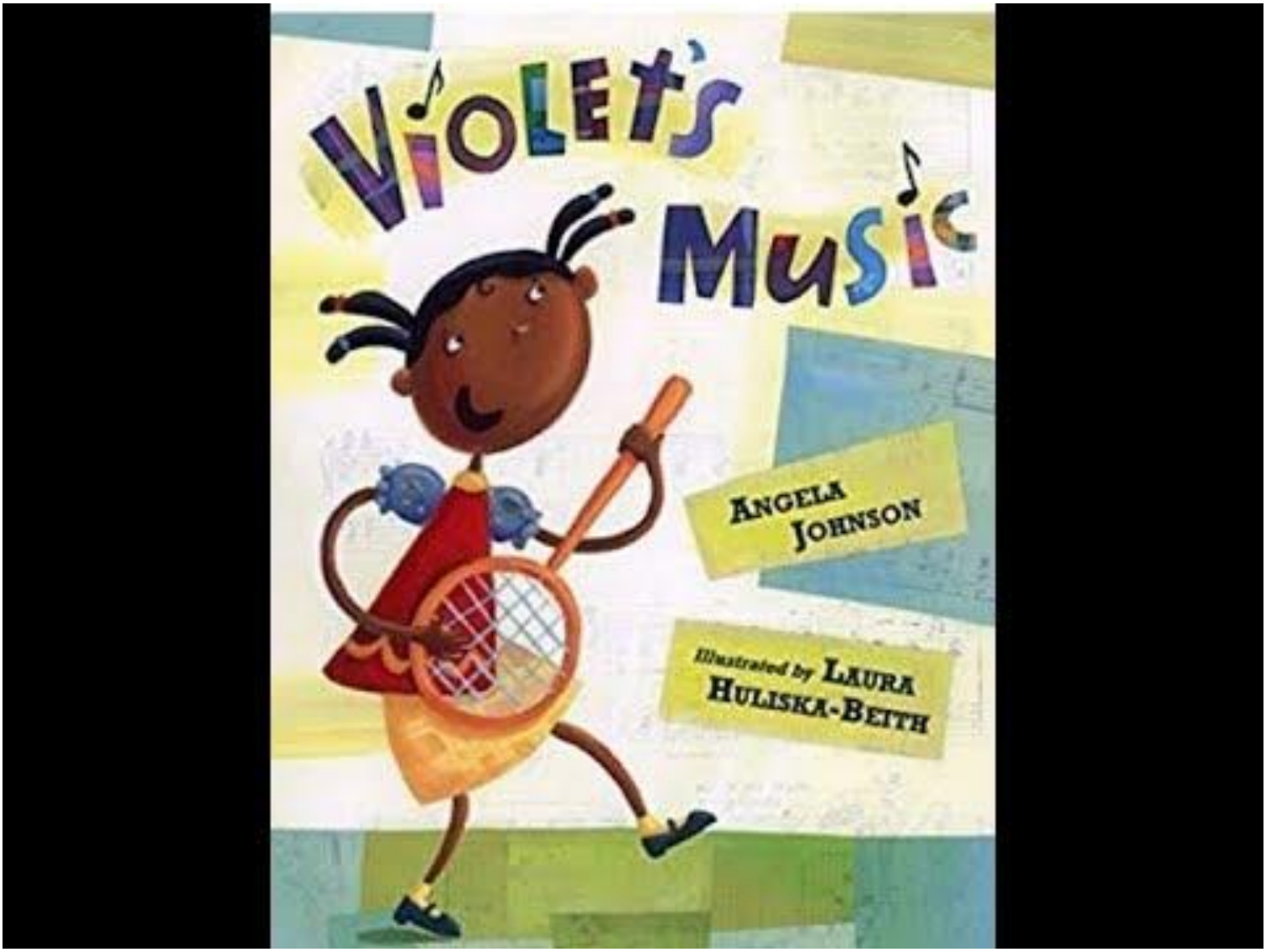

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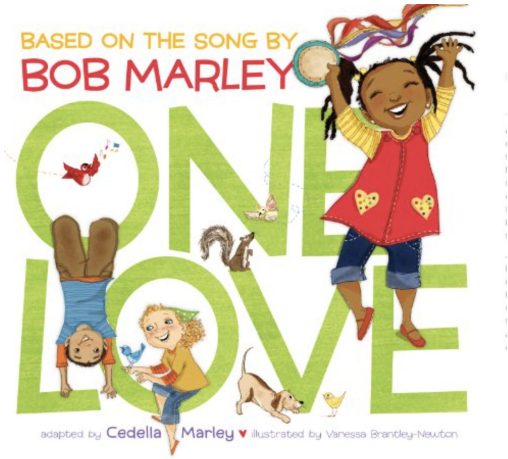

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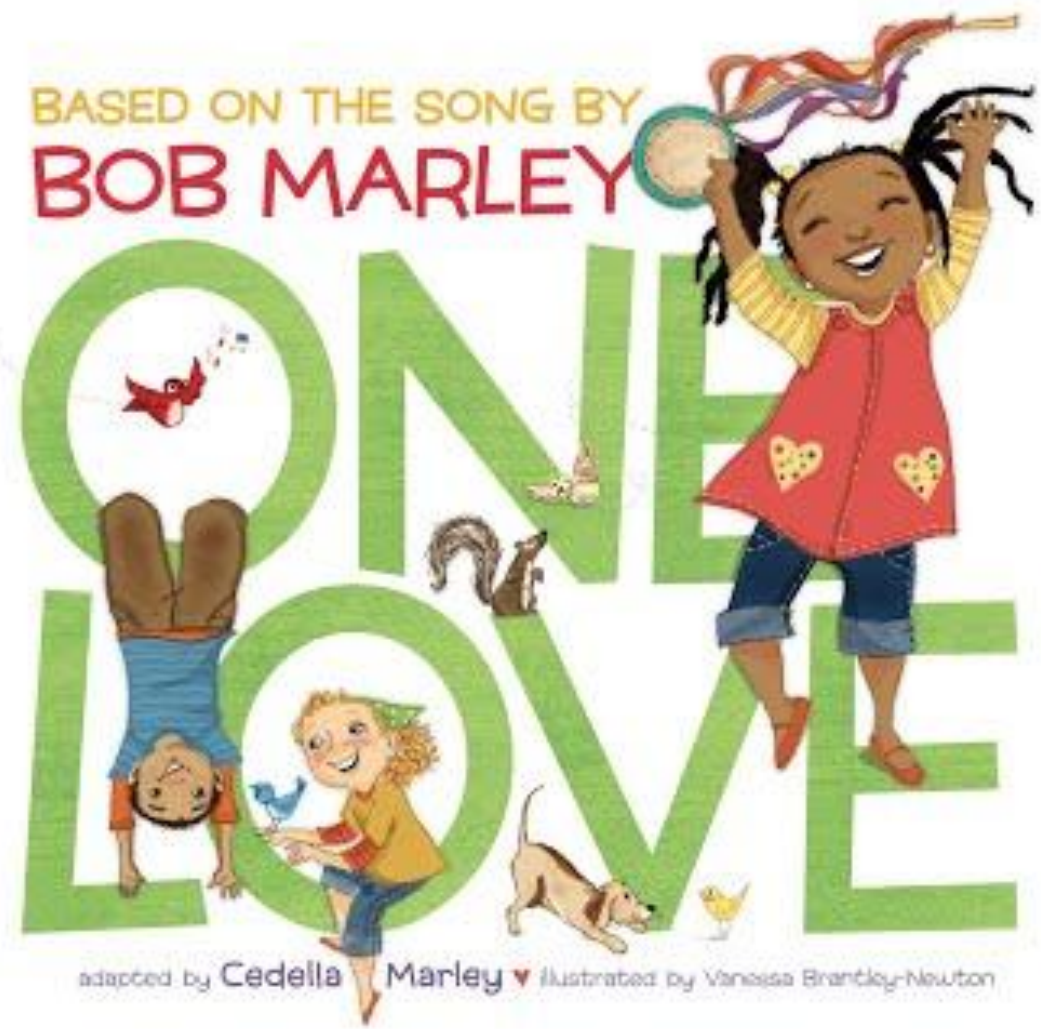

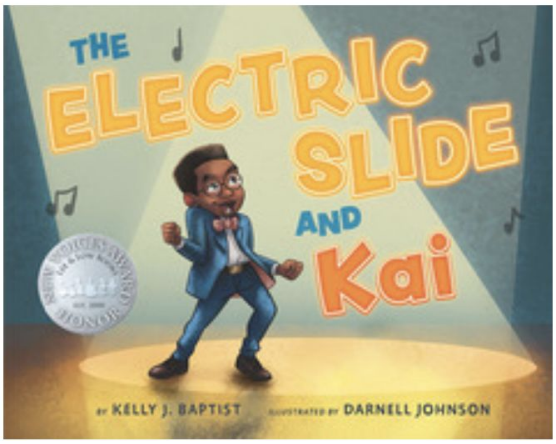

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Use this link below to take a virtual tour of the book. Listen to the author & illustrator talk about creating the book and more.

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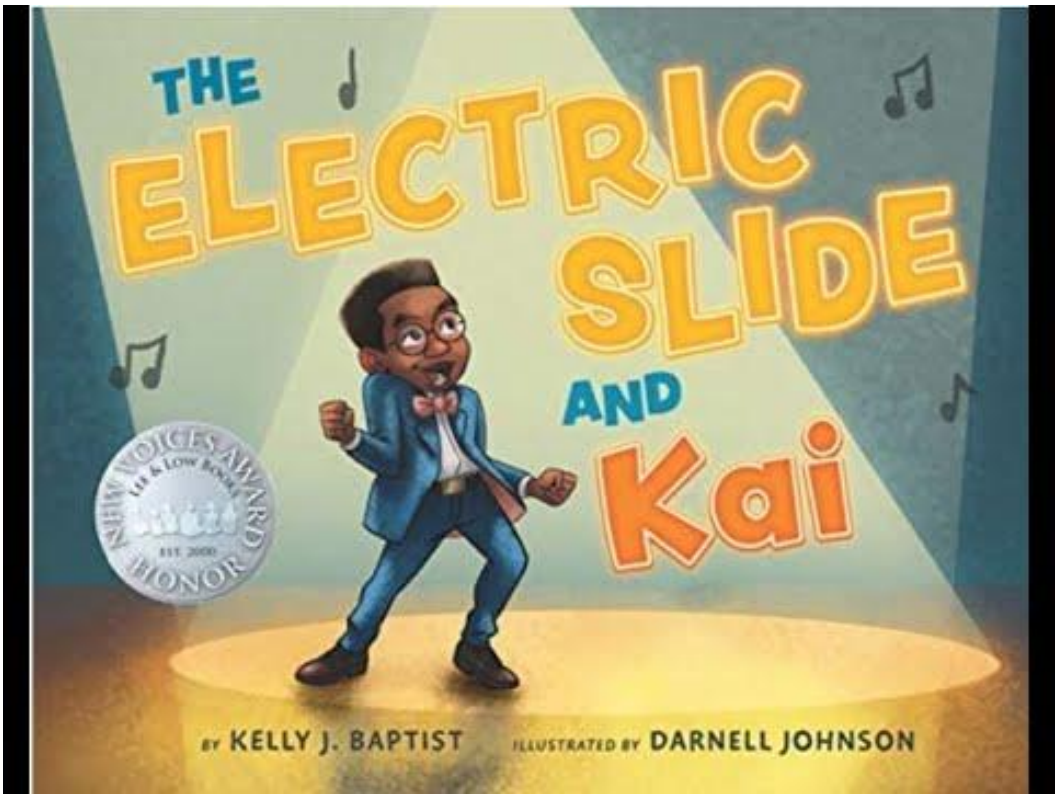

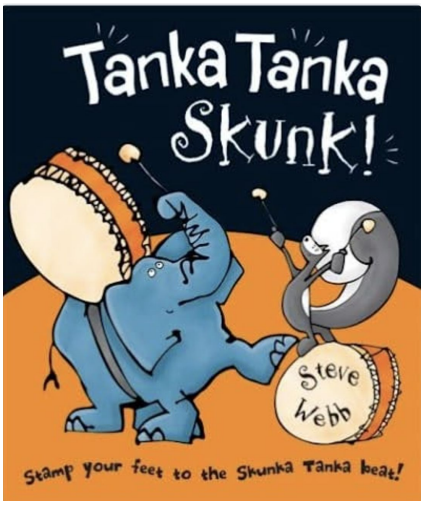

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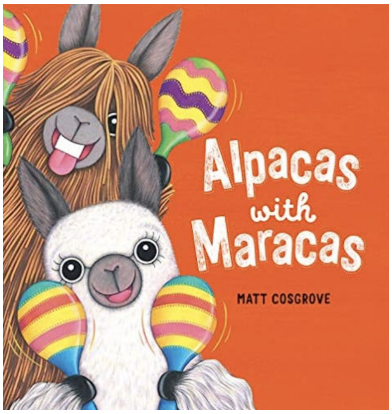

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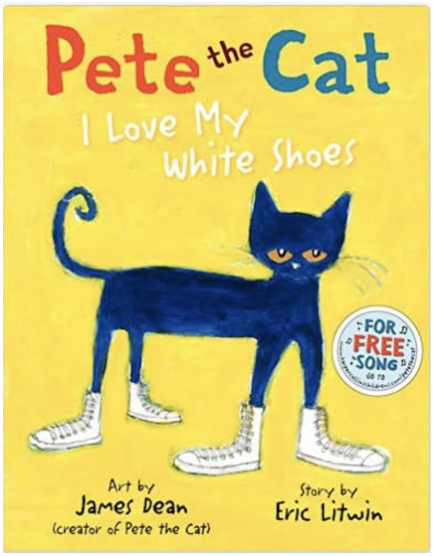

Pete the Cat

Written by Eric Litwin
Illustrated by James Dean

Pete the Cat has brand new white shoes and is walking down the street. Throughout the book Pete encounters new items that change the color of his shoes. No matter what color his shoes are, Pete keeps movin' and groovin' and singing his song… because it is all good.

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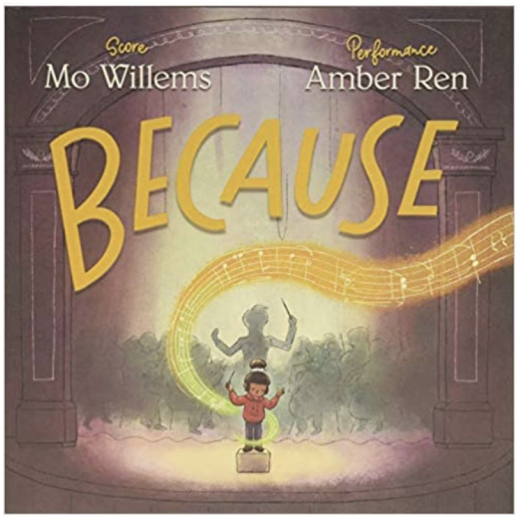


Because

Written by Mo Willems
Illustrated by Amber Ren

Because historic composers wrote beautiful music and combined efforts, they created a concert that changed one young musician's path…. That young musician wrote more beautiful music. This story celebrates the power of music and also introduces musical terms to students.

Look in the Speaker Notes below for additional resource links

Your Name is a Song

Written by

Illustrated by

This beautiful book celebrates the musicality of African, Asian, Black-America, Latinx and Middle Eastern names on their lyrical walk through the city. Your Name is a Song is a celebration to remind all of us about the beauty, history and magic behind names.

Look in the Speaker Notes below for additional resource links

Rumble Grumble Hush

A Lesson of Rhythms

This book is rich with **onamonapias** and would work well with teaching rhythm of quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes.

Lesson:

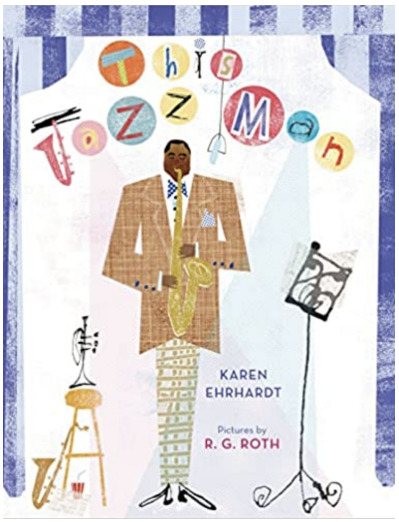
Read the book through and discuss the rhythm of particular words, matching words to types of musical rhythms. As a class, make a list of words that are memorable from the read aloud.

Have students work in groups to sort out words from the text to show understanding of syllable/rhythm patterns. Rhythm instruments could be used (or body) to practice word rhythms.

Alternative books for this activity:

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

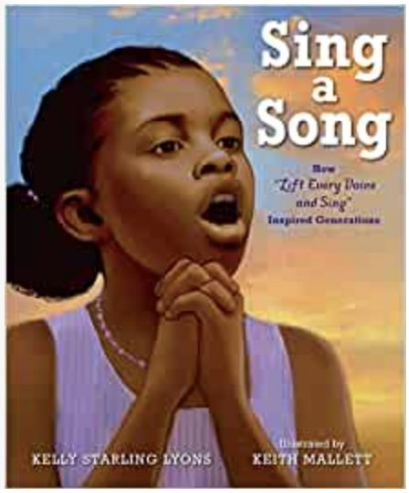
The Rain Stomper



This Jazz Man

Written by Karen Ehrhardt
Illustrated by R.G. Roth

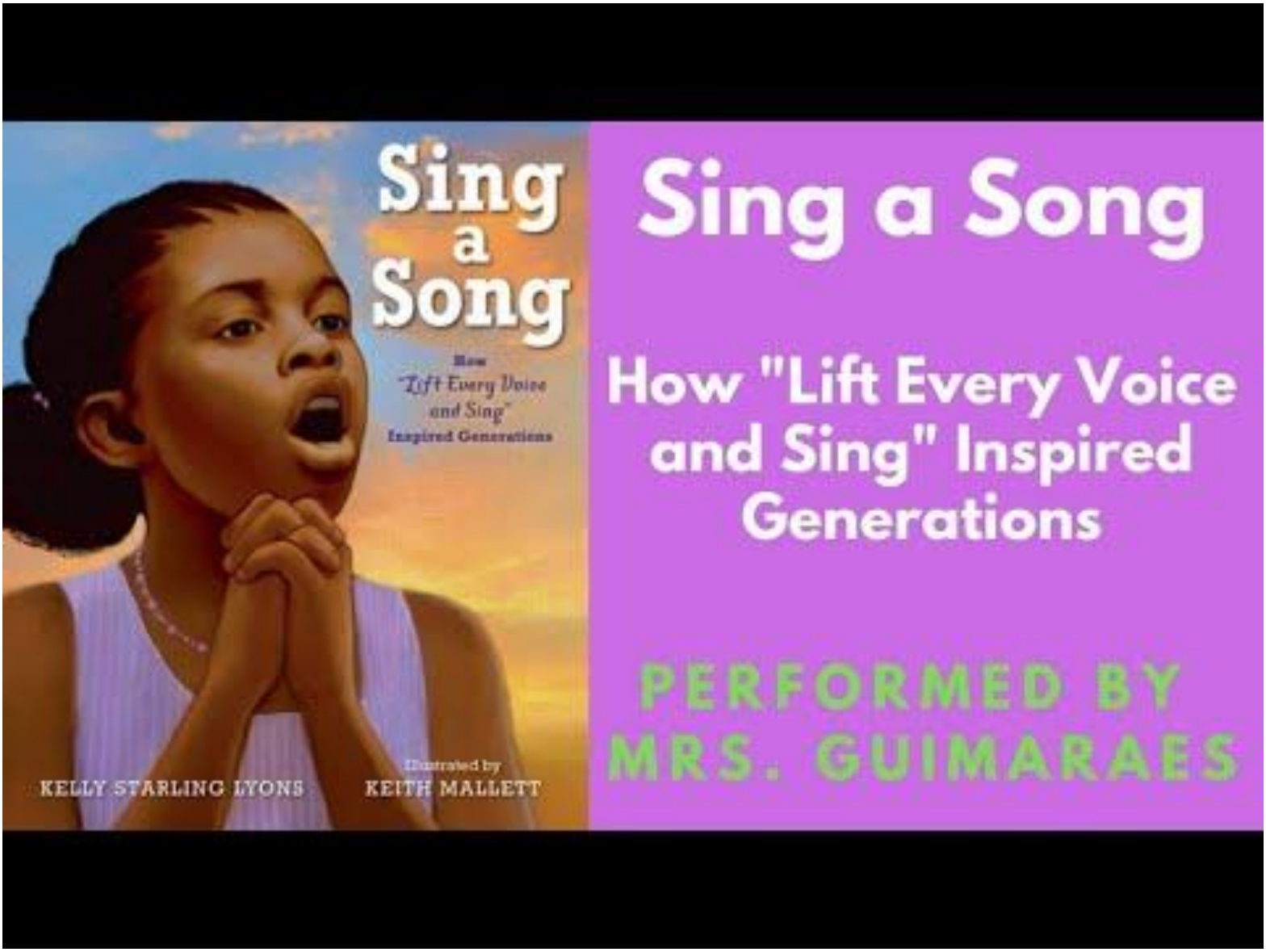
This toe-tapping jazz tribute, the traditional “This Old Man” gets a swinging makeover, and some of the era’s best musicians take center stage. Nine jazz giants will teach children to count and give everyone a reason to dance!

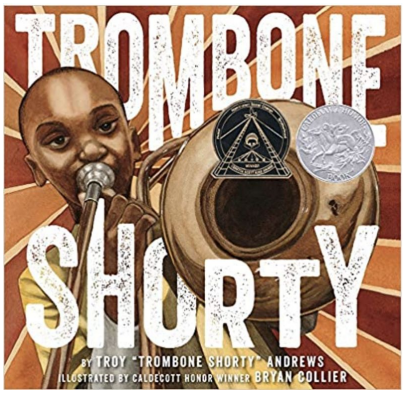


Sing a Song

Written by Kelly Starling Lyons
Illustrated by Keith Mallett

This stirring book celebrated the Black National Anthem and how it inspired five generations of a family.

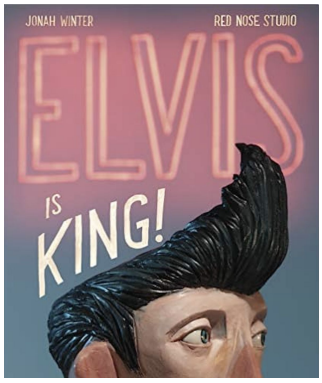




Trombone Shorty

Written by Troy Andrews
Illustrated by Bryan Collier

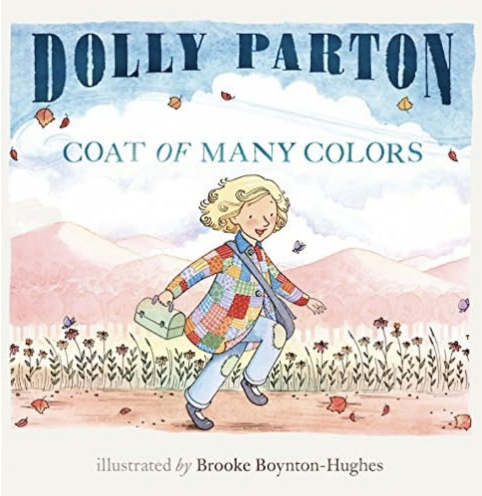
Hailing from the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans, where music always floated in the air, Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews didn’t always have the money to buy an instrument, but he did have the dream to play music. This is the story of how he made his dream take flight.



Elvis is King!

Written by Jonah Winter
Illustrated by Red Nose Studio

Here's the perfect book for anyone who wants to introduce rock 'n' roll and its king to the child in their lives. In single- page "chapters" with titles like "The First Cheeseburger Ever Eaten by Elvis" and "Shazam! A Blond Boy Turns into a Black-Haired Teenager," readers can follow key moments in Presley's life, from his birth on the wrong side of the railroad tracks in the Deep South, to playing his first guitar in grade school, to being so nervous during a performance as a teenager that he starts shaking . . . and changes the world!

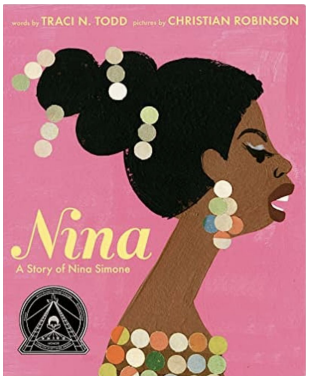


The Coat of Many Colors

Written by Dolly Parton

Illustrated by Brooke Boynton Hughes

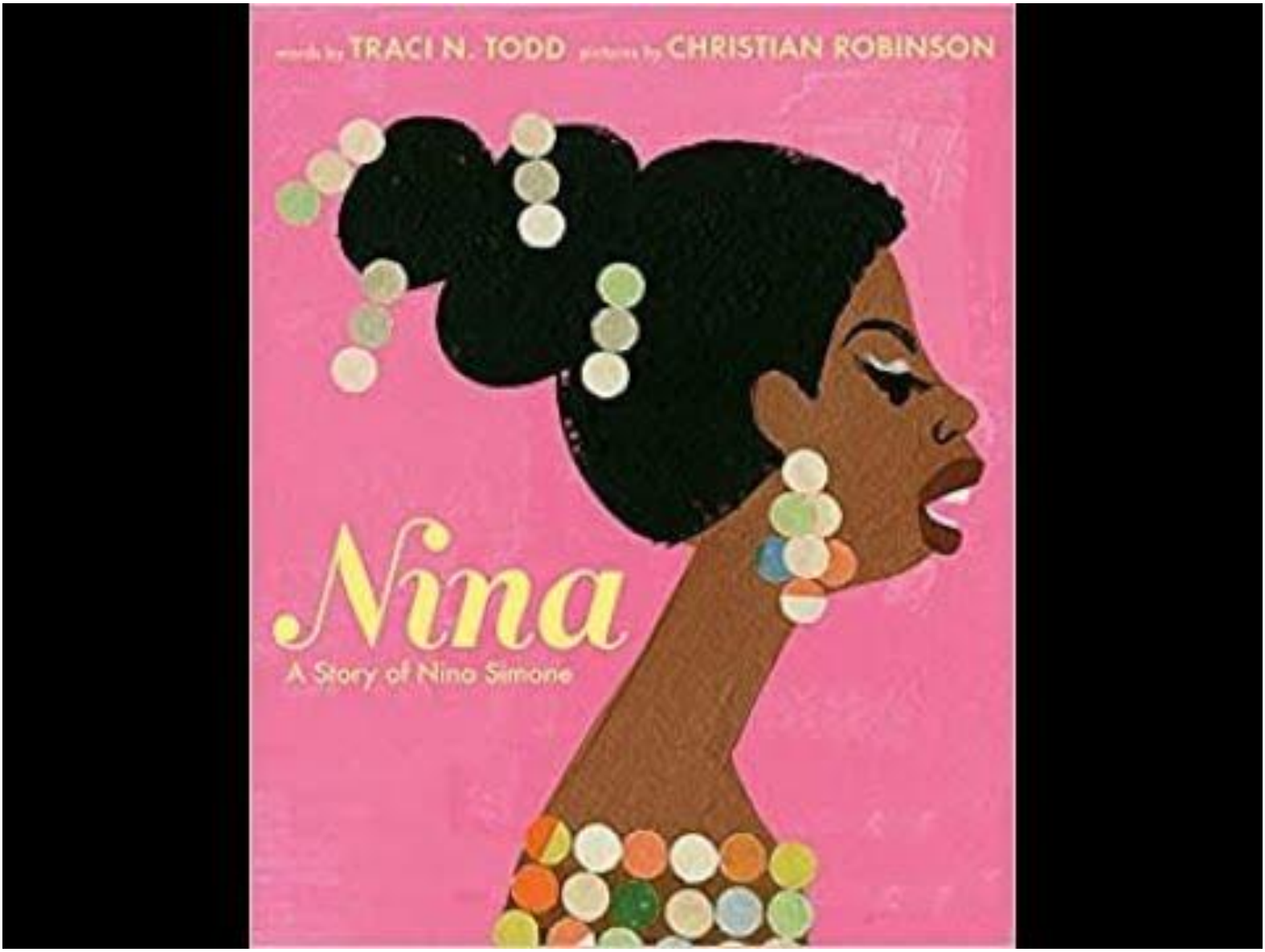
Country music legend Dolly Parton's rural upbringing in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee provides the backdrop for this special picture book. Using lyrics from her classic song "Coat of Many Colors," the book tells the story of a young girl in need of a warm winter coat. When her mother sews her a coat made of rags, the girl is mocked by classmates for being poor. But Parton's trademark positivity carries through to the end as the girl realizes that her coat was made with love "in every stitch."



Nina: A Story of Nina Simone

Written by Traci N. Todd
Illustrated by Christian Robinson

This luminous, defining picture book biography illustrated by Caldecott Honoree Christian Robinson, tells the remarkable and inspiring story of acclaimed singer Nina Simone and her bold, defiant, and exultant legacy.



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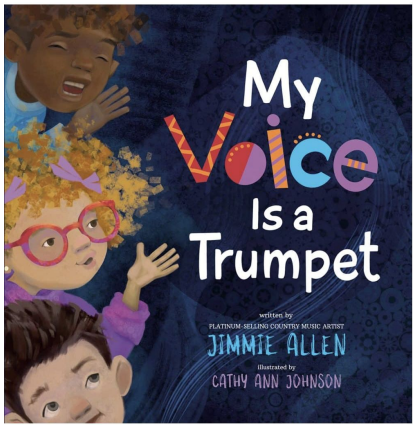


My Voice is a Trumpet

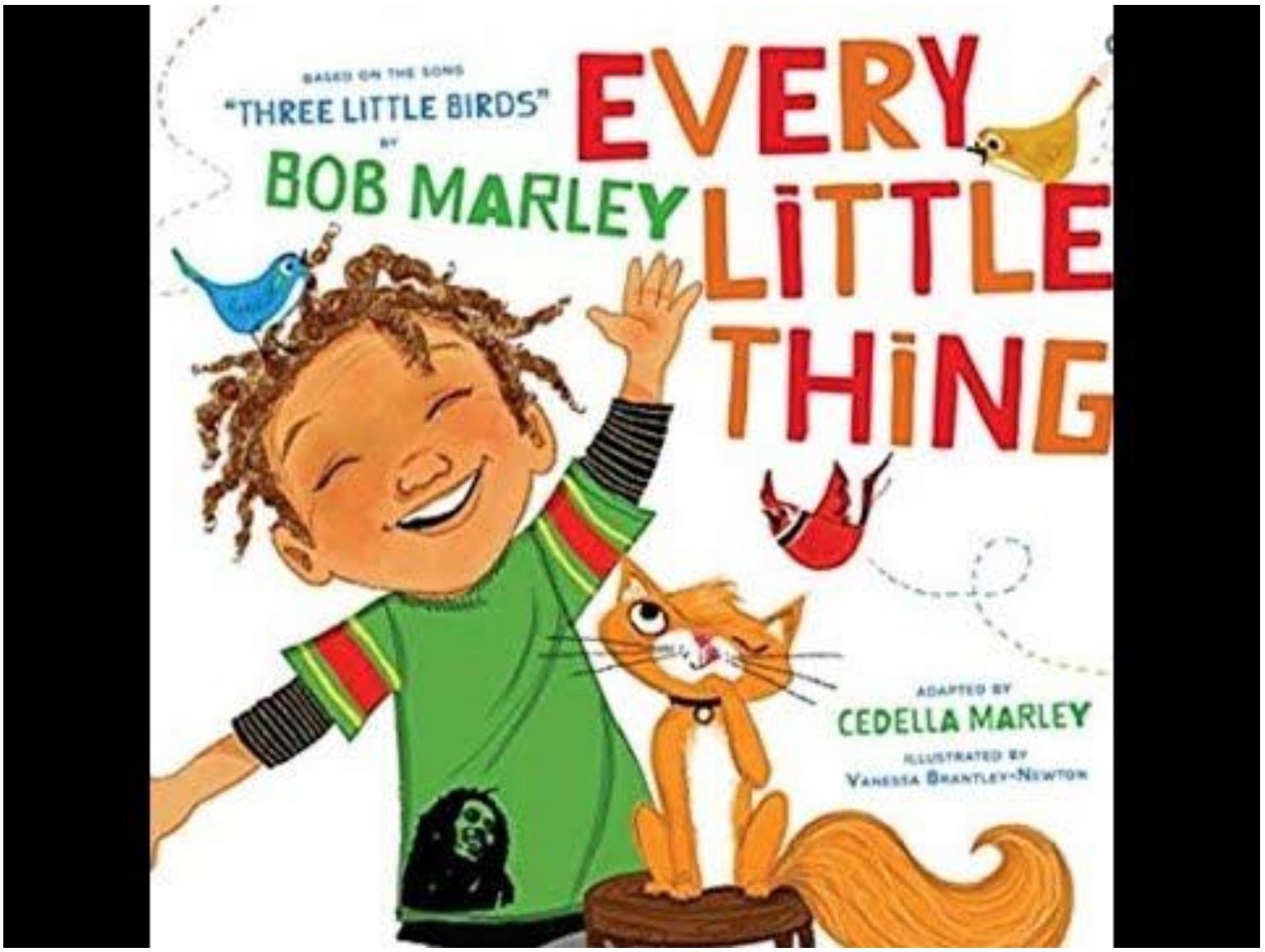
Written by Jimmie Allen
Illustrated by Cathy Ann Johnson

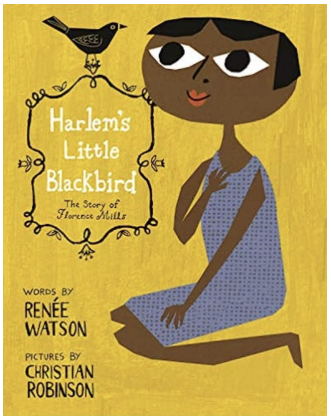
From voices tall as a tree, to voices small as a bee, all it takes is confidence and a belief in the goodness of others to change the world. Coming at a time when issues of social justice are at the forefront of our society, this is the perfect book to teach children in and out of the classroom that they're not too young to express what they believe in and that all voices are valuable.

Every Little Thing

Written by Bob Marley, Cedella Marley, et al.
Illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

This upbeat story reminds children that the sun will always come out after the rain and mistakes are easily forgiven with a hug. Every family will relate to this universal story of one boy who won't let anything get him down, as long as he has the help of three very special little birds.





Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills

Written by Renee Watson
Illustrated by Christian Robinson

Born to parents who were both former slaves, Florence Mills knew at an early age that she loved to sing, and that her sweet, bird-like voice, resonated with those who heard her. Performing catapulted her all the way to the stages of 1920s Broadway where she inspired everyone from songwriters to playwrights. Yet with all her success, she knew firsthand how prejudice shaped her world and the world of those around her. As a result, Florence chose to support and promote works by her fellow black performers while heralding a call for their civil rights.

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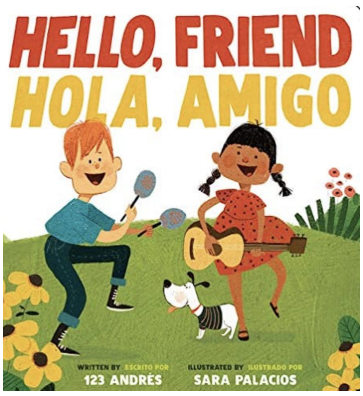

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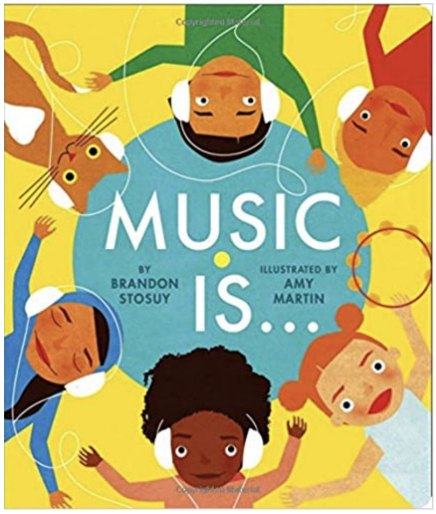

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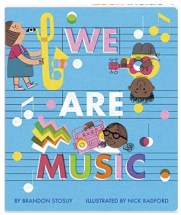

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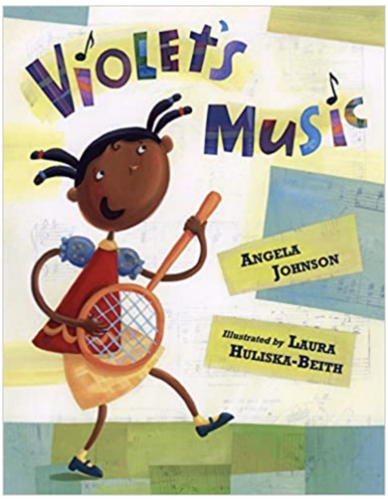

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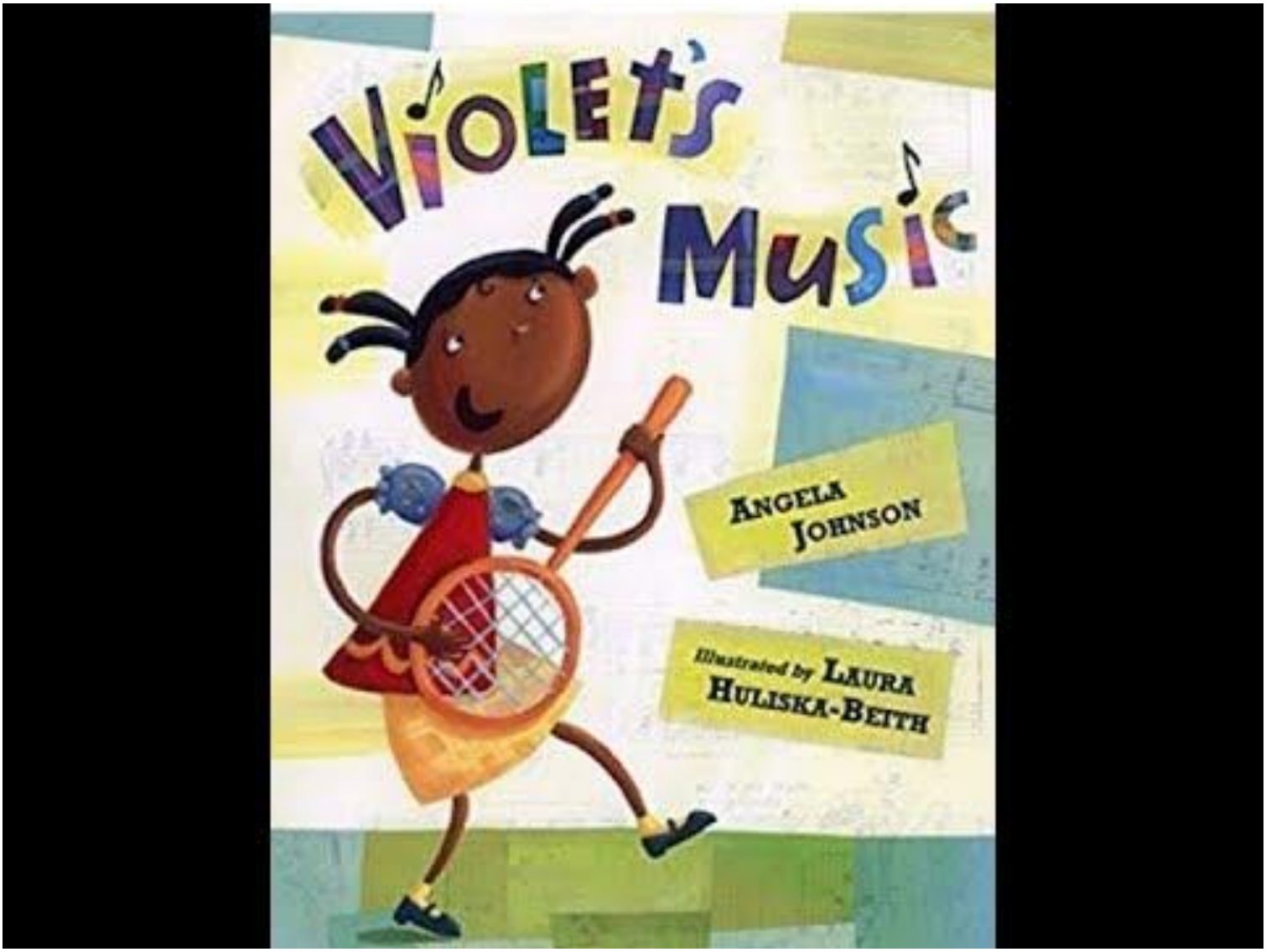

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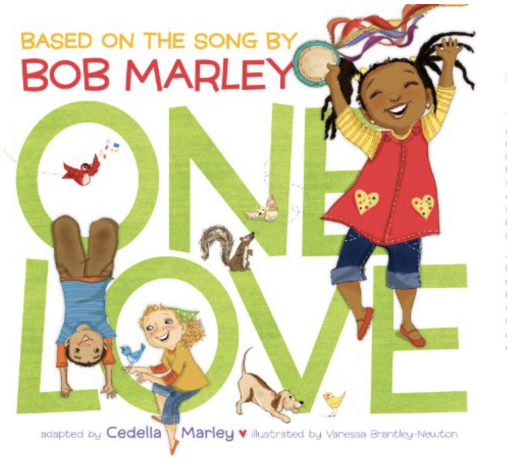

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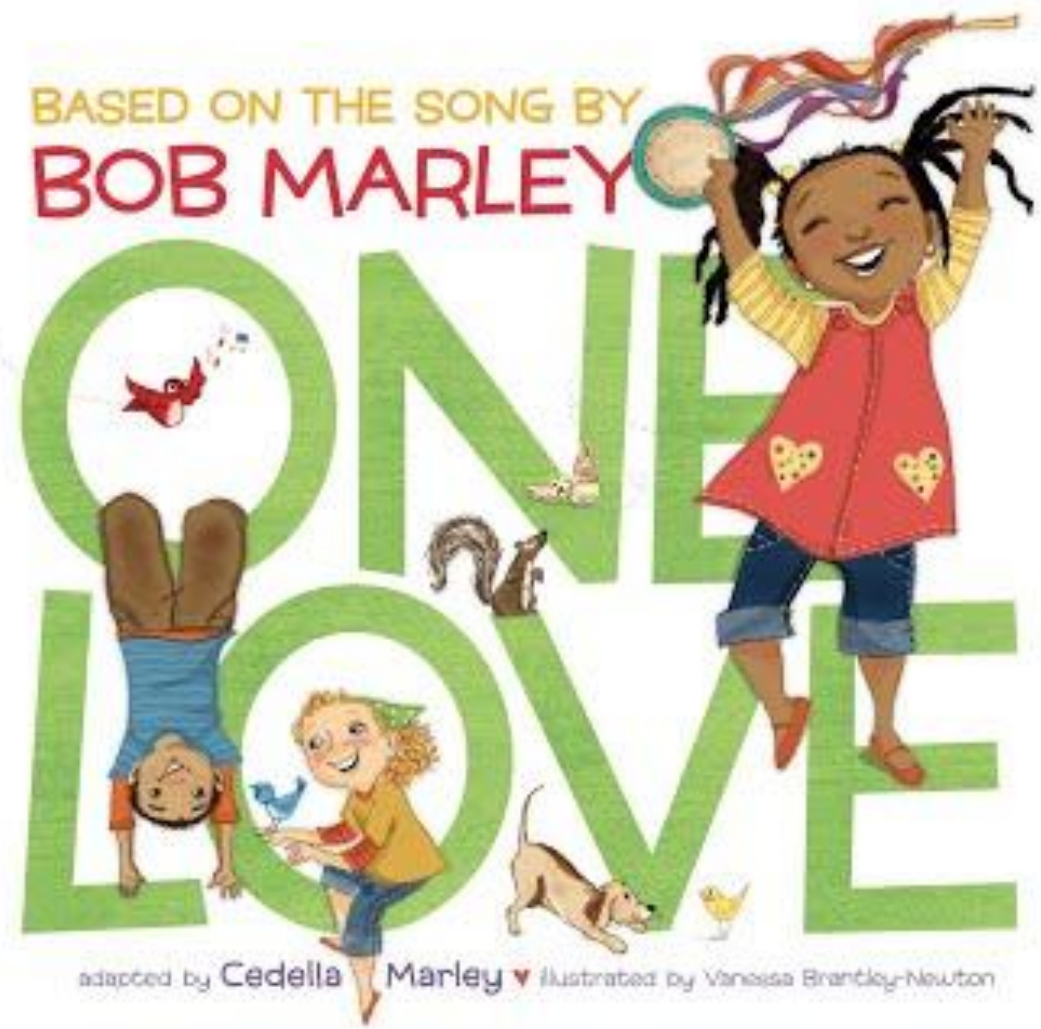

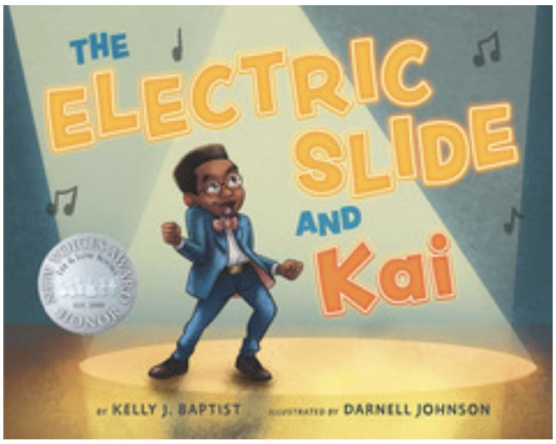

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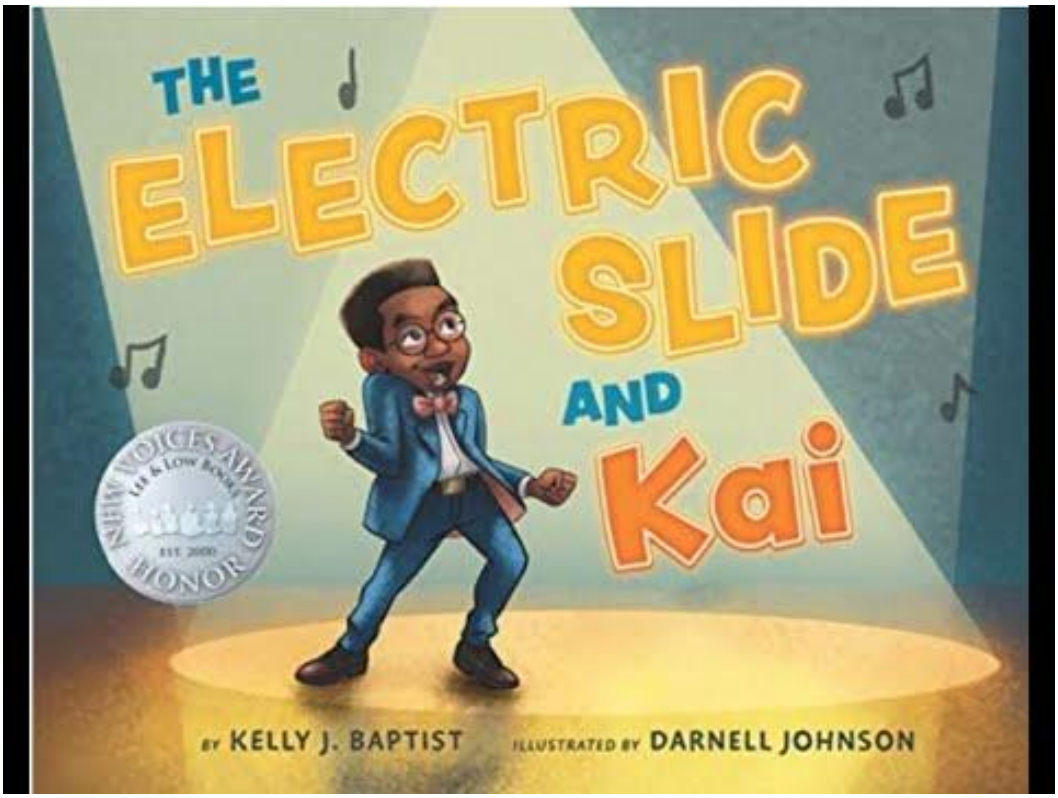

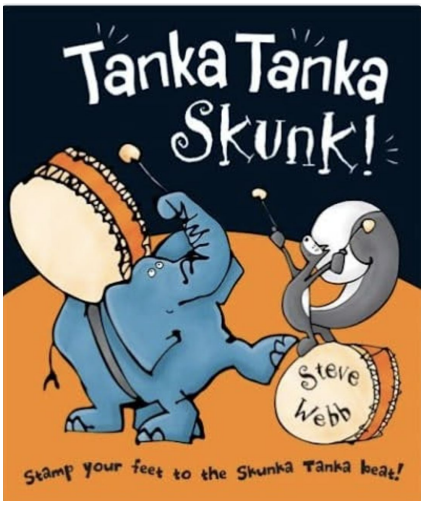

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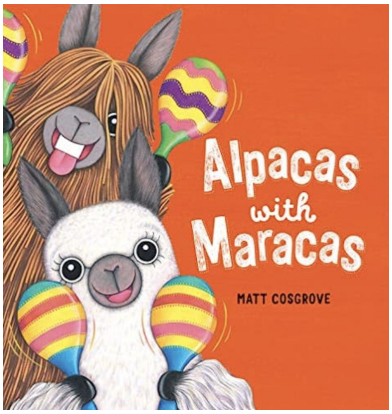

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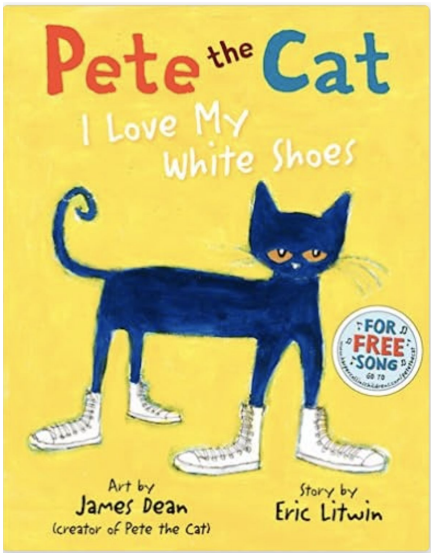
Written by Matt Cosgrove

Two friends find their perfect instrument! A story of perseverance, friendship and fun.

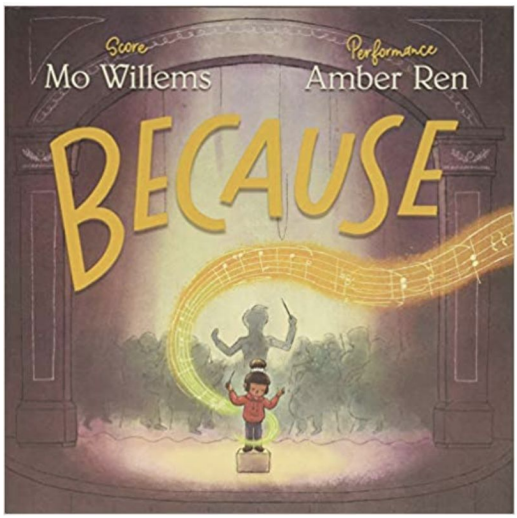


Pete the Cat

Written by Eric Litwin
Illustrated by James Dean

Pete the Cat has brand new white shoes and is walking down the street. Throughout the book Pete encounters new items that change the color of his shoes. No matter what color his shoes are, Pete keeps movin' and groovin' and singing his song… because it is all good.

Look in the Speaker Notes below for additional resource links



Because

Written by Mo Willems
Illustrated by Amber Ren

Because historic composers wrote beautiful music and combined efforts, they created a concert that changed one young musician's path…. That young musician wrote more beautiful music. This story celebrates the power of music and also introduces musical terms to students.

Look in the Speaker Notes below for additional resource links

Your Name is a Song

Written by

Illustrated by

This beautiful book celebrates the musicality of African, Asian, Black-America, Latinx and Middle Eastern names on their lyrical walk through the city. Your Name is a Song is a celebration to remind all of us about the beauty, history and magic behind names.

Look in the Speaker Notes below for additional resource links

Rumble Grumble Hush

A Lesson of Rhythms

This book is rich with **onamonapias** and would work well with teaching rhythm of quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes.

Lesson:

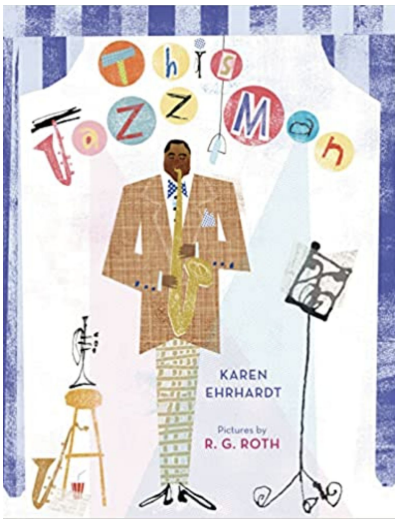
Read the book through and discuss the rhythm of particular words, matching words to types of musical rhythms. As a class, make a list of words that are memorable from the read aloud.

Have students work in groups to sort out words from the text to show understanding of syllable/rhythm patterns. Rhythm instruments could be used (or body) to practice word rhythms.

Alternative books for this activity:

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

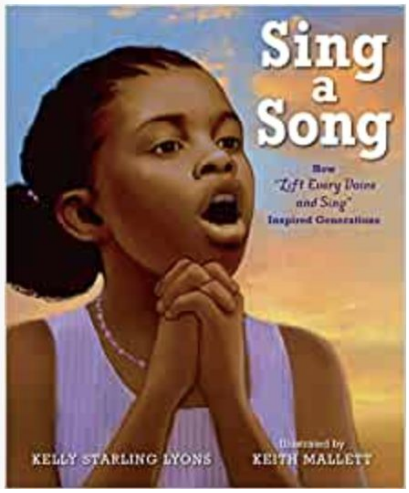
The Rain Stomper



This Jazz Man

Written by Karen Ehrhardt
Illustrated by R.G. Roth

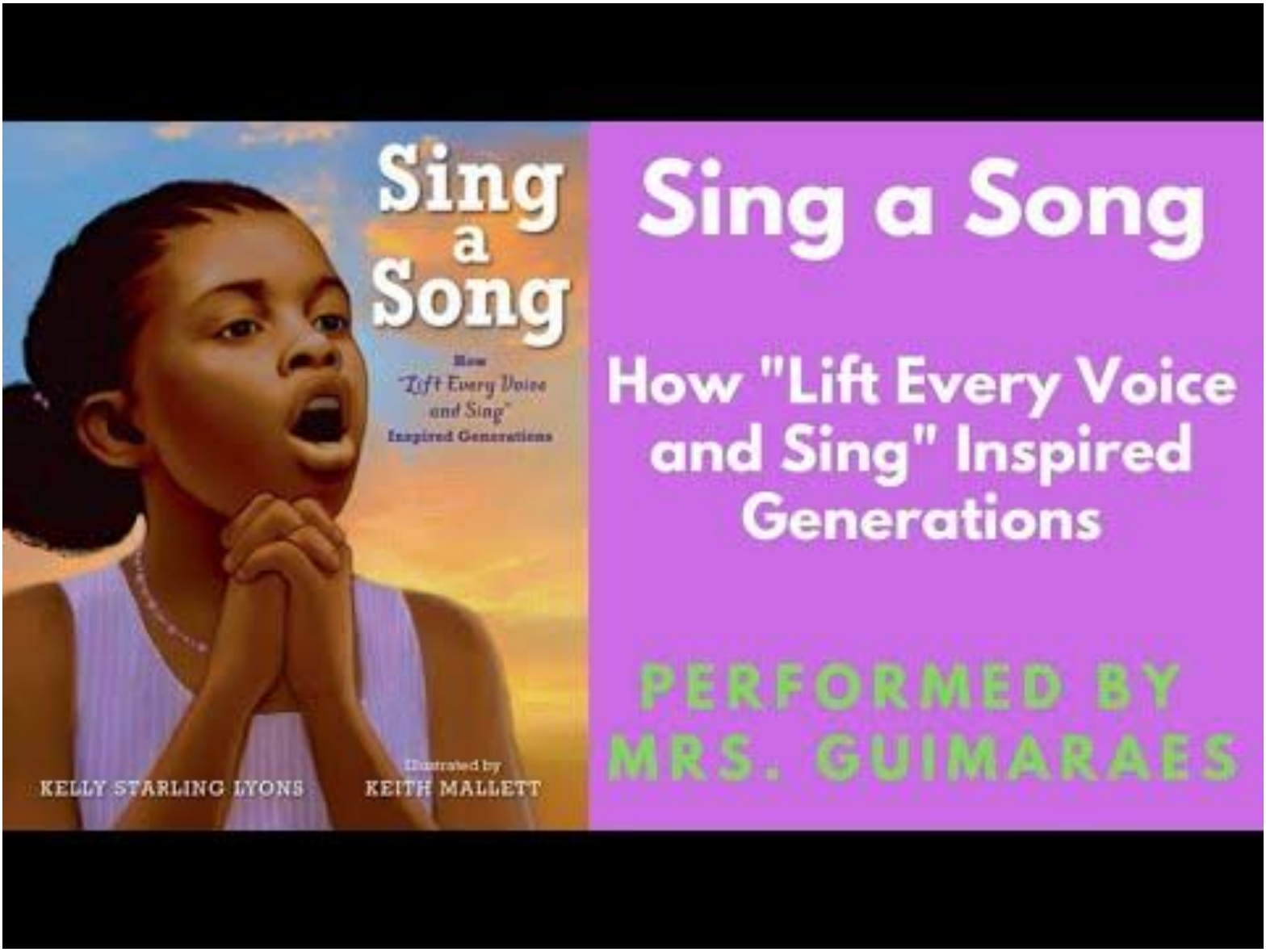
This toe-tapping jazz tribute, the traditional “This Old Man” gets a swinging makeover, and some of the era’s best musicians take center stage. Nine jazz giants will teach children to count and give everyone a reason to dance!

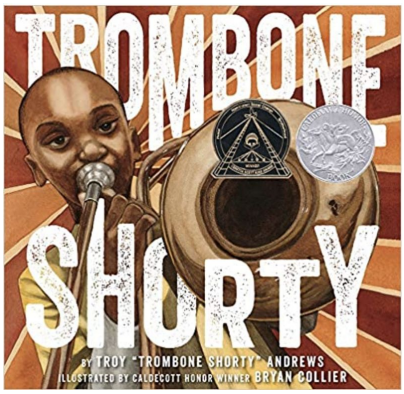


Sing a Song

Written by Kelly Starling Lyons
Illustrated by Keith Mallett

This stirring book celebrated the Black National Anthem and how it inspired five generations of a family.

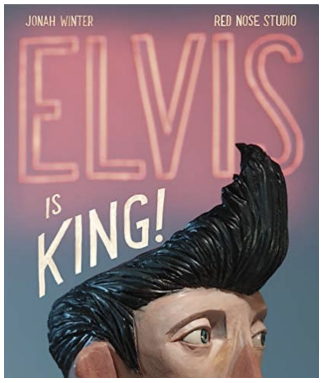




Trombone Shorty

Written by Troy Andrews
Illustrated by Bryan Collier

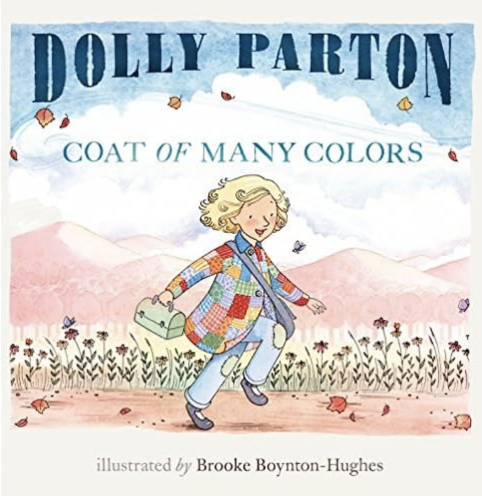
Hailing from the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans, where music always floated in the air, Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews didn’t always have the money to buy an instrument, but he did have the dream to play music. This is the story of how he made his dream take flight.



Elvis is King!

Written by Jonah Winter
Illustrated by Red Nose Studio

Here's the perfect book for anyone who wants to introduce rock 'n' roll and its king to the child in their lives. In single- page "chapters" with titles like "The First Cheeseburger Ever Eaten by Elvis" and "Shazam! A Blond Boy Turns into a Black-Haired Teenager," readers can follow key moments in Presley's life, from his birth on the wrong side of the railroad tracks in the Deep South, to playing his first guitar in grade school, to being so nervous during a performance as a teenager that he starts shaking . . . and changes the world!

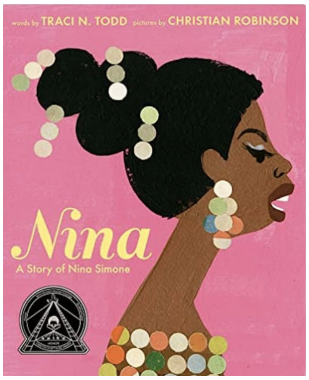


The Coat of Many Colors

Written by Dolly Parton

Illustrated by Brooke Boynton Hughes

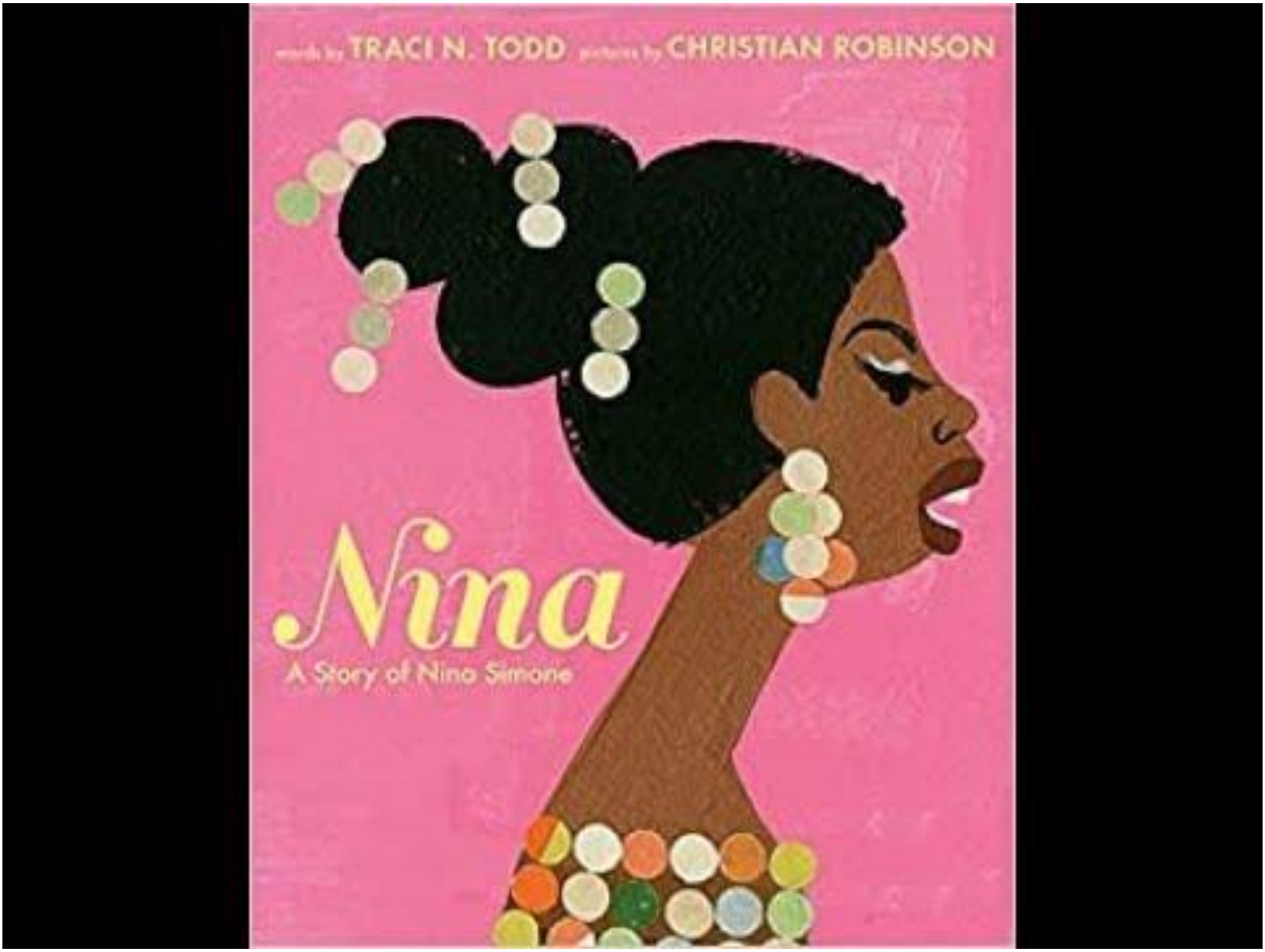
Country music legend Dolly Parton's rural upbringing in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee provides the backdrop for this special picture book. Using lyrics from her classic song "Coat of Many Colors," the book tells the story of a young girl in need of a warm winter coat. When her mother sews her a coat made of rags, the girl is mocked by classmates for being poor. But Parton's trademark positivity carries through to the end as the girl realizes that her coat was made with love "in every stitch."



Nina: A Story of Nina Simone

Written by Traci N. Todd
Illustrated by Christian Robinson

This luminous, defining picture book biography illustrated by Caldecott Honoree Christian Robinson, tells the remarkable and inspiring story of acclaimed singer Nina Simone and her bold, defiant, and exultant legacy.



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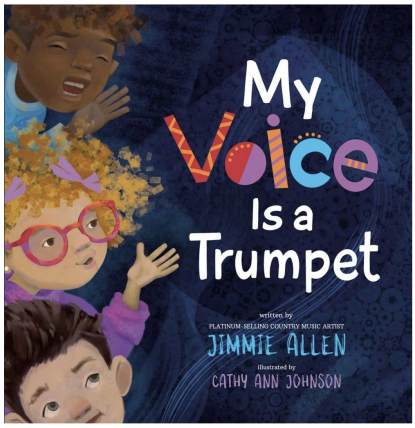


My Voice is a Trumpet

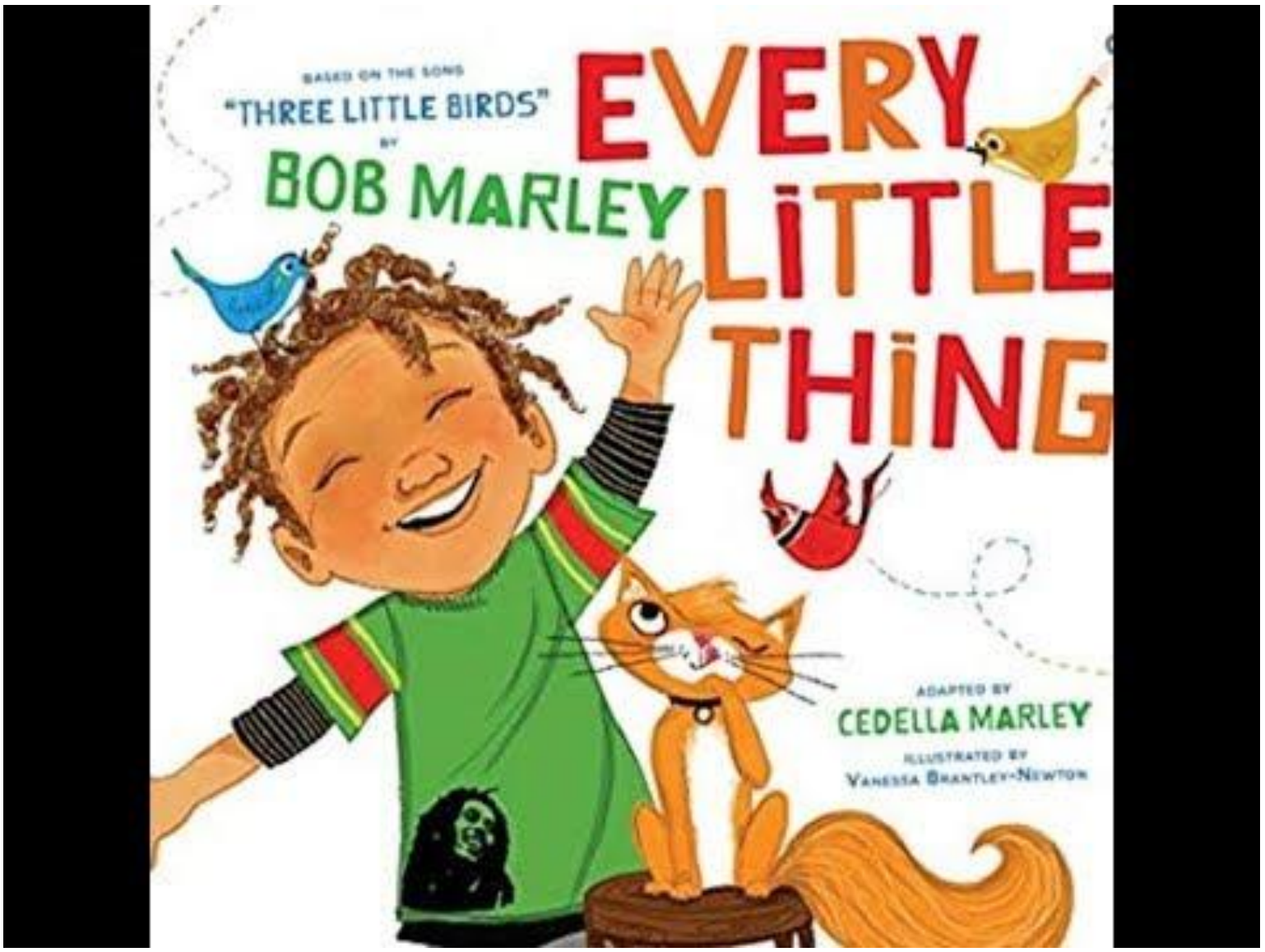
Written by Jimmie Allen
Illustrated by Cathy Ann Johnson

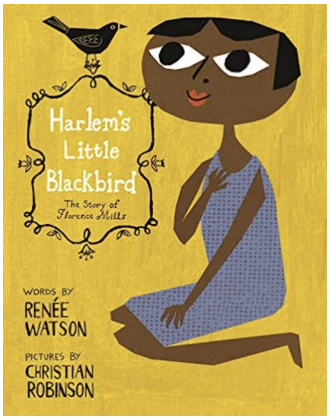
From voices tall as a tree, to voices small as a bee, all it takes is confidence and a belief in the goodness of others to change the world. Coming at a time when issues of social justice are at the forefront of our society, this is the perfect book to teach children in and out of the classroom that they're not too young to express what they believe in and that all voices are valuable.

Every Little Thing

Written by Bob Marley, Cedella Marley, et al.
Illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

This upbeat story reminds children that the sun will always come out after the rain and mistakes are easily forgiven with a hug. Every family will relate to this universal story of one boy who won't let anything get him down, as long as he has the help of three very special little birds.





Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills

Written by Renee Watson
Illustrated by Christian Robinson

Born to parents who were both former slaves, Florence Mills knew at an early age that she loved to sing, and that her sweet, bird-like voice, resonated with those who heard her. Performing catapulted her all the way to the stages of 1920s Broadway where she inspired everyone from songwriters to playwrights. Yet with all her success, she knew firsthand how prejudice shaped her world and the world of those around her. As a result, Florence chose to support and promote works by her fellow black performers while heralding a call for their civil rights.