



CELEBRATING WHO WE ARE WITH FOOD

By Class 3-219 at P.S. 154 Harriet Tubman School



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FOOD**

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Behind the Book / New York

Our mission is to develop engaged readers and writers in underserved NYC public schools by designing and delivering programs that are multi-disciplinary, culturally responsive, and promote deeper connections to books and their authors

Visit us at www.behindthebook.org

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JJ Johnson and the staff at Fieldtrip Restaurant in Harlem, New York.

In the interest of honoring student voice, Behind the Book presents students' work as received from the teacher.

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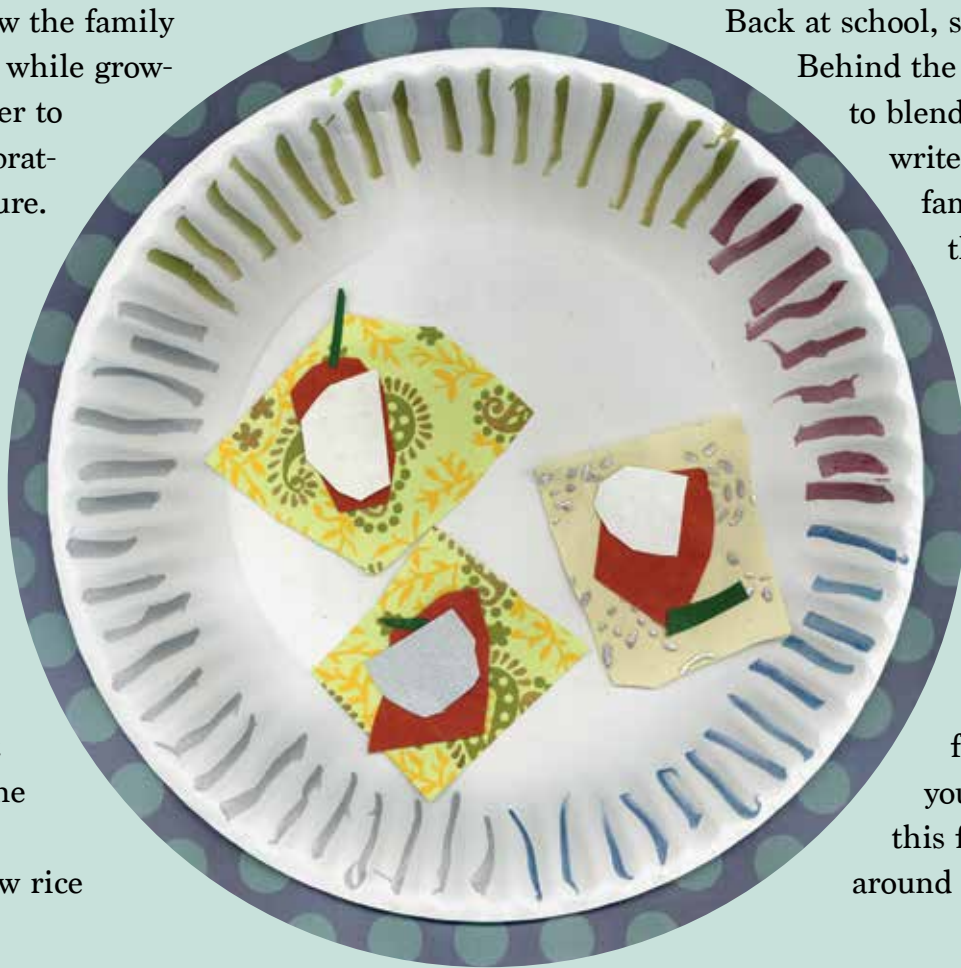
**WE DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO
MS. SANDRA, MS. MYRA, MS. JARRETT, AND TO OUR PARENTS.**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

If you want to know how food is culture, just ask Class 3-219! The 3rd graders began exploring the importance of food in culture when reading *Rice and Rocks* by Sandra Richards. In the book, a magic parrot transports a boy named Giovanni around the world and shows him things that all people share -- a love of eating and spending time with friends and family. Sandra visited the class and told them how the family foods she enjoyed while growing up inspired her to write a book celebrating food and culture. Memories of her family's cooking were a strong connection to her Caribbean heritage. Inspired by Sandra's book, the students were asked to interview a family member about a favorite dish. The class also learned from the book how rice

is eaten and enjoyed in many cultures around the world. The students better understood the significance of rice during their visit to Fieldtrip Restaurant in Harlem. Chef and restaurant founder JJ Johnson greeted the class and shared his love of what he calls the "greatest connector"--rice! Chef JJ invited the class to try out healthy dishes from around the globe using different types of rice.

Back at school, students worked with Behind the Book writing coaches to blend all their activities and write essays about a favorite family dish. To spice up their writing, students worked with Behind the Book teaching artist Candice Humphries to represent their favorite recipes visually with colorful collages. This book is a collection of recipes, stories, and artwork from Class 3-219. Fill your heart and soul with this feast from cultures around the world!



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HAMZA

I read the book Rice and Rocks. I learned from Rice and Rocks that rice has different taste. A lot of people around the world eat food with their family. My family is from Yemen. I interviewed my mom about a special family food. My special food is a seed. One ingredient that I know is flour. I eat it when I go to my cousins house. I eat with two fingers. We don't eat with a fork. It is special to me because I can meet my family and eat together.



LISSETTE



Rice and Beans teaches us about culture. One thing I learned is that rice and beans is a food that is eaten all around the world!

My family is from Puerto-Rico. It is a little island and many people come from there. I interviewed my aunt Judy Rivera. She is the best. She helped me learn how my family makes the food. The name of my special family food is rice and beans. It is made up of rice, water, sofrito, and adobo. My family usually eats this food every day. I eat with my sister, my mother, and my father. And sometimes I go to my grandma's house to eat with her too.

This food is special to our family is because it feeds our whole family. It is also very good.

KEONDRE

Rice and Rocks teaches us that rice is culture to many countries. In each country they cook rice different ways and may look different. My family is from the United States. My family lives in New York. I interviewed my sister, Keiana. The name of my family's special food is B B Q chicken. We eat B B chicken at dinner on Sundays, Thanksgiving, and on birth days. I eat the food with my family.

This food is special to my family because we only eat it on special days and because it is delicious.





We read Rice and Rocks and we learned about the different foods people eat, the day they eat it, and the music they listen to. This is all a part of culture. My family is from the United States. We are from Harlem. I interviewed my grandma to learn more about my family's food. The name of my special food is shrimp, white rice and broccoli. My family eats this for dinner and I eat it with my mom and grandma. It is special to me and my family because we are African American and I like to eat this for dinner some times.

JUSTIN

The book Rice and Rock taught me not to feel embarrassed of your own culture. Don't assume that your friends are not going to like your culture. My family is from Peru and the Dominican Republic. I interviewed my mommy because she is smarter than me. My special family food is chicken and yellow rice with avocado. My grandma makes the food almost all the time on my birthday and I eat the food with my family. The food is special to me because if I did not have the food that my grandma made, I would be sad.



ANA BRENDA



Rice and Rocks taught me that people don't eat the same thing. Even if you are from the same country it does not mean you eat the same foods. A country has many different regions and people may have many traditions.

My family is from Mexico. I interviewed my mom because my mom knows a lot about Mexico. My mom was born there. The name of my special food is pozole. It is made out of corn, chicken, salsa, oregano, saint leaf, garlic, salt and oil. My family usually eats this food during celebrations, holidays and birthday. I eat it with my family members. It's the only time I see my family that live far away.

This food is special to my family because it represents Mexico.

CHRISTOPHER

Rice and Rocks written by Sandra L. Richards taught me that people don't eat different foods because they live in different places. Sometimes they are just called different names. My family comes from Mexico. I interviewed my mom because she knows how to make pozole. My special family food is pozole. It is made out of corn, onion, chicken or pork, garlic, oregano, bay leaf, water, salt, and avocado. My family usually eats this during Christmas and on birthdays. I eat this food with my family. This is special to my family because it is culture and tradition. And it reminds me of my culture and where I come from.





From the book Rice and Rocks I Learned that people Around the world eat Different types of food. When you eat food from different places, you learn about culture.

My family is from New Jersey. I interviewed my Mom to learn more about my culture. My Family's special Food is crack pot. It is made of water, goya, zozoni, steak, carrots, potatoes, peppers, onions, and beef broth. Don't forget to COOK for six hours or it will taste frozen. My family eats this every Friday. I eat with my two brothers, my mom, my dad, my Auntie, and me.

This Food is special to my family because every one works together to cook this special dish.

The book *Rice and Rocks* written by Sandra L. Richardson taught me about other people's cultures. It taught me that people from other places like, Japan, Puerto Rico, New Orleans eat rice and beans too. This shows me that people around the world eat similar foods.

My mom's family is from Russia. I interviewed my mom because she is the only one that knows how to make our special family food called borsch. It is made up of chicken broth, potatoes, cabbage, onions, carrots, beets, tomato paste, salt and pepper and herbs and bay leaves. It takes a long time to cook. My family eats borsch on holidays like, Thanksgiving and Christmas. But, I also eat borsch with my sister, my mom, and my brother when it is cold.

This food is special to my family because my mom ate borsch when she was a little girl in Russia. It was my mom's tradition when she was little and she wants us to follow it.





Rice and Rocks taught me that many cultures have many different ways of doing the same thing. My family lives in Panama and Africa. I interviewed my mom, my aunt, and dad to learn more about my family's cultural food. My family's food is pizza and rice and beans. It is made up of pizza and rice and beans. We eat it on special days like weekends with my mom, dad, brothers, and sister. It makes me happy and joyful. The food is special to my family because it is very delicious. It also brings everyone in the family together.

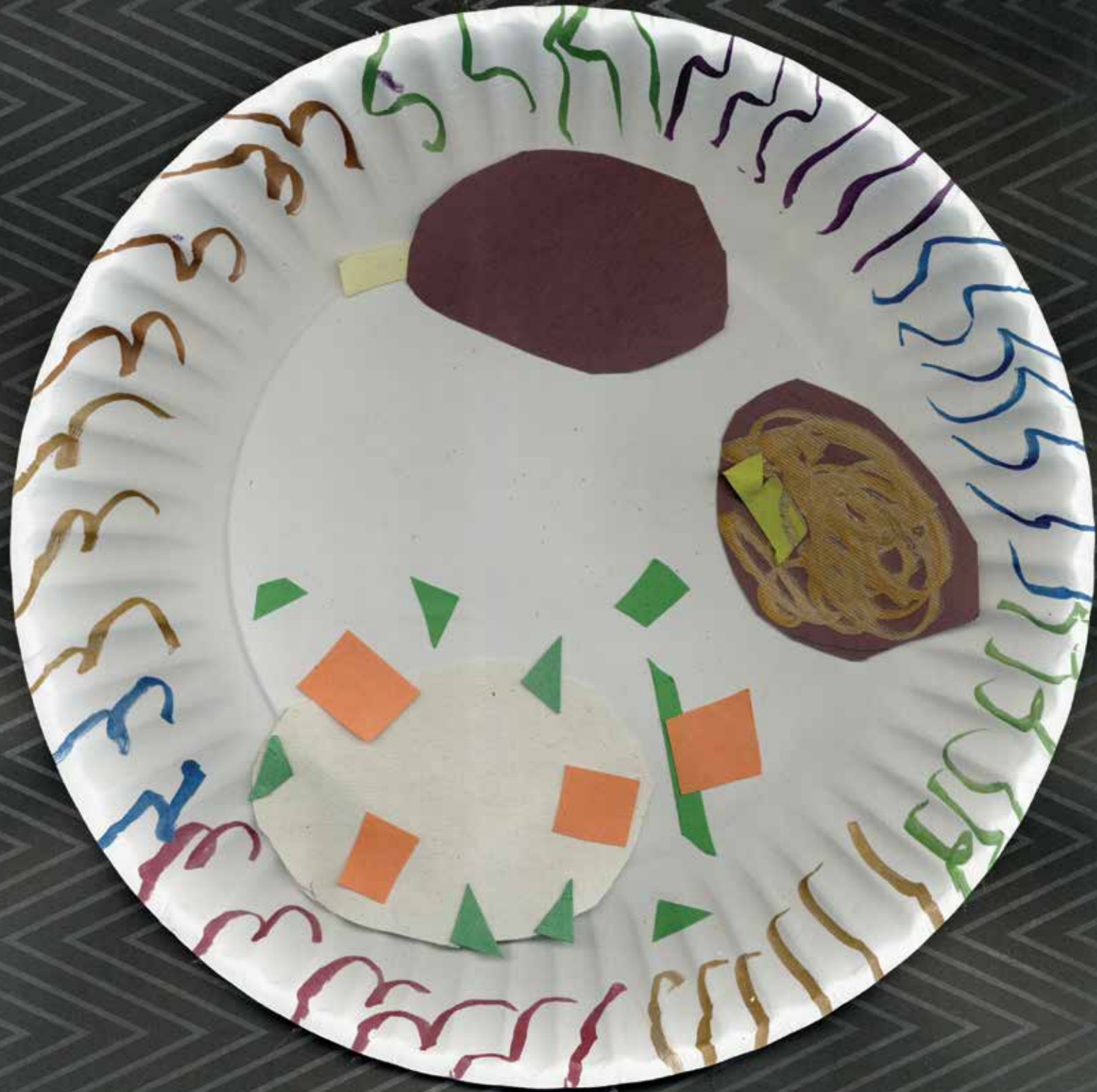
JULIAN

The book *Rice and Peas* taught me that different cultures eat and celebrate many different things.

My family is from Puerto-Rico. I interviewed my grandma. I interviewed her because she knows a lot about my family and culture and she cooks very well. My special food is pollo guisado. It is made up of rice, potatoes, and pork chops. It is a dish my grandma taught my mom. We usually eat this on Saturdays. The reason why we eat this dish on Saturdays is because it's the day in which a family member made it.

This food is special to my family is because it represents my culture and family.





The book Rice and Rocks taught me that culture is music, holidays, food and sometimes on special occasions. Culture is everywhere.

My family is from the Ivory Coast and I interviewed my Dad to learn more about my family and culture. My family's food is fufu. It is made out of bananas, flour, water, and some sauce with peppers. Pepper is optional. My family eats this food on special occasions like birthdays and sometimes holidays. I eat this food with my family. My family includes, my mom, Dad, sister, Brothers, uncles and aunts.

This food is special to my family because it represents our country and it is part of my culture.

ISABELLA

The book *Rice and Rocks* taught me that there are different cultures in the world. I also learned that different cultures eat different foods. However, some cultures eat rice that has been prepared in different ways.

My Dad is from the Dominican Republic and my mom is from the United States.

I interviewed my dad because I wanted to know what he would say.

A special food that my family eats is Baked pineapple ham. It is made of Ham, pineapple, Adobo, Black pepper, Sazon.

I eat the food with my mom's family because every year we meet together on special days like on Sundays, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

The food is special to my family because it shows my culture and who we are.





Rice and Rocks taught me how different cultures work. I learned that many cultures may seem different but the food people eat are similar.

My family is from the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico too. Puerto Rico is a little island. I interview my mom, dad, and grandma. They helped me learn what my food culture is. The food we eat is called Arroz con Gandules beans. ^{It is made up of rice} Sofito, oil, salt and water. My family and I eat this special food on holidays like New Year and Christmas. I eat this special food with my mom, my dad, and other members of my family. This food is special to my family because it is a part of my family culture. It is a tradition passed down from my mother's mother.

I read the book Rice and Rocks. What it taught me about other people's cultures is that many people from different places have special food in their cultures. A lot of people eat the same food. My family is from Florida. I interviewed my brother about a family food. The name of my family special food is strawberry waffles. It is made of bread and strawberries. My family usually eat this food on a special day which is sundays. On sundays we all get together. It is special to my family because we like to eat. To make waffles, cook the waffles for five minutes. Take the waffles out of the toaster. Then put strawberries on top.



JACOB



Rice and Rocks is a book about cultures and culture is about foods that you eat on a Holiday. My family is from New York and South Carolina. I interviewed Carolyn Privette. She is my grandma and she is in South Carolina. My special family food's name is black eyed peas. It's made of salt, peper, smoked turkey and neck bones. My family eats it on January 1, the first day of the new year. The food is special to me because it is my family tradition. Its a family tradition passed down through generations.

AUBREY

Rice and Rocks taught me that people have different ways to celebrate culture. I also learned that some culture celebrate with the same food but make it a different way.

My mother is from America (Georgia). I interviewed my mother because I wanted to know where she is from. And her family traditions. The name of our family tradition food is candied yams. It is made from sweet potatoes, marshmallows, brown sugar, water, nutmeg, vanilla extract, butter and cinnamon.

My family usually eats this on Thanksgiving and Christmas. I eat it with all my family members.

This food is special because it has been in our family culture for many years.





The book *Rice and Rock* it taught me that everyone has their own culture. I learned that people have different foods, clothing, language, celebrations, and music in different countries.

My family is from China. I interviewed my oldest brother Vincent. My oldest brother is 11 years old. I chose my oldest brother because my parents didn't know a lot of English and they might not understand. The name of my family special food is hot pot. It is made out of water, clams, meat, tofu, shrimp, sausage, fish ball, fish and mushroom and

different sauces. I usually eat this food on Sundays or Chinese New Year. I eat this food with my mom, dad, siblings, and grandparents. I feel very happy because our family can get together.

This food is special to our family because we can share our tradition while we eat. For example, some tradition we share is the foods that we eat like rice and bean and sushi.

RANA

A lot of cultures eat rice and beans but not every thing is the same. In Japan, Puerto Rico, New Orleans, they eat rice and beans too.

My family is from Yemen. I interviewed my mom because she knows about our country and the foods we eat. My family's special food is Kabisa. It is made of rice and chicken, water, oil, and food color. We eat Kabisa on special holidays. All of my family comes together to eat this food.

This food is special to my family because it takes a long time to make but when it's ready it is really good to eat.



CLASS FIELD TRIP

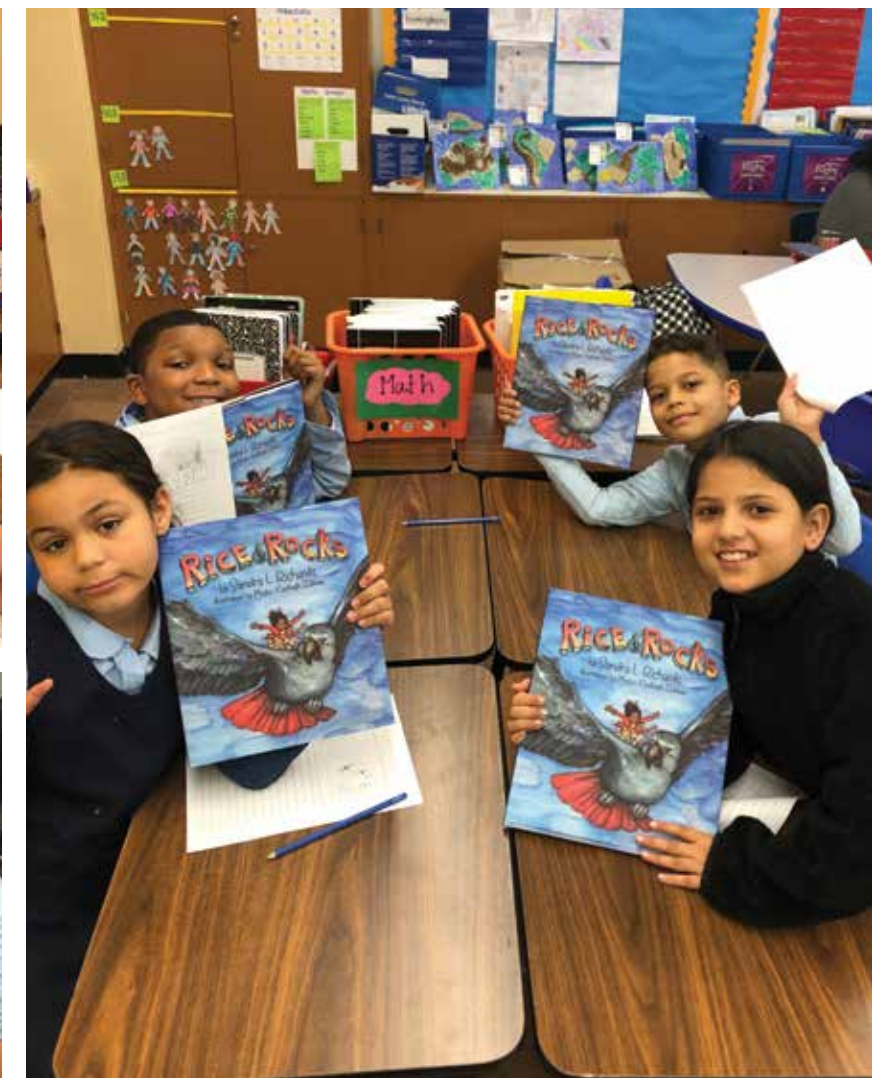


ABOUT THE VISITING AUTHOR

Sandra L. Richards is the debut picture book author of *Rice & Rocks*. With *Rice & Rocks*, Sandra brings a unique contribution to the world of children's books. An American-born daughter of Jamaican immigrant parents, she hopes the book will serve as an educational resource for families seeking to teach their children the value of their heritage and the importance of cultural diversity. Learn more about Sandra at www.sandra-richards.com.

ABOUT THE STUDENT AUTHORS

Our class is made up of students who represent different cultures. We enjoy spending time together and learning about each other; where we come from and what makes us all unique.



ABOUT BEHIND THE BOOK

Behind the Book creates intensive learning and empowering experiences for New York City public school students. Working with classes from Pre-K through the 12th grade, Behind the Book brings authors and their books into individual classrooms to build literacy skills and create a community of lifelong readers and writers. Each of a series of workshops is designed to bring books to life to inspire and engage the students. Behind the Book programs are part of the class curriculum and meet the Common Core Learning Standards.

COMMON CORE LEARNING STANDARDS

READING

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.1

Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.2

Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.7

Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

WRITING

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2.A

Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2.B

Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.5

With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

**WE BRING AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS INTO THE CLASSROOM
TO MAKE READING AND WRITING AN AWESOME EXPERIENCE!**



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