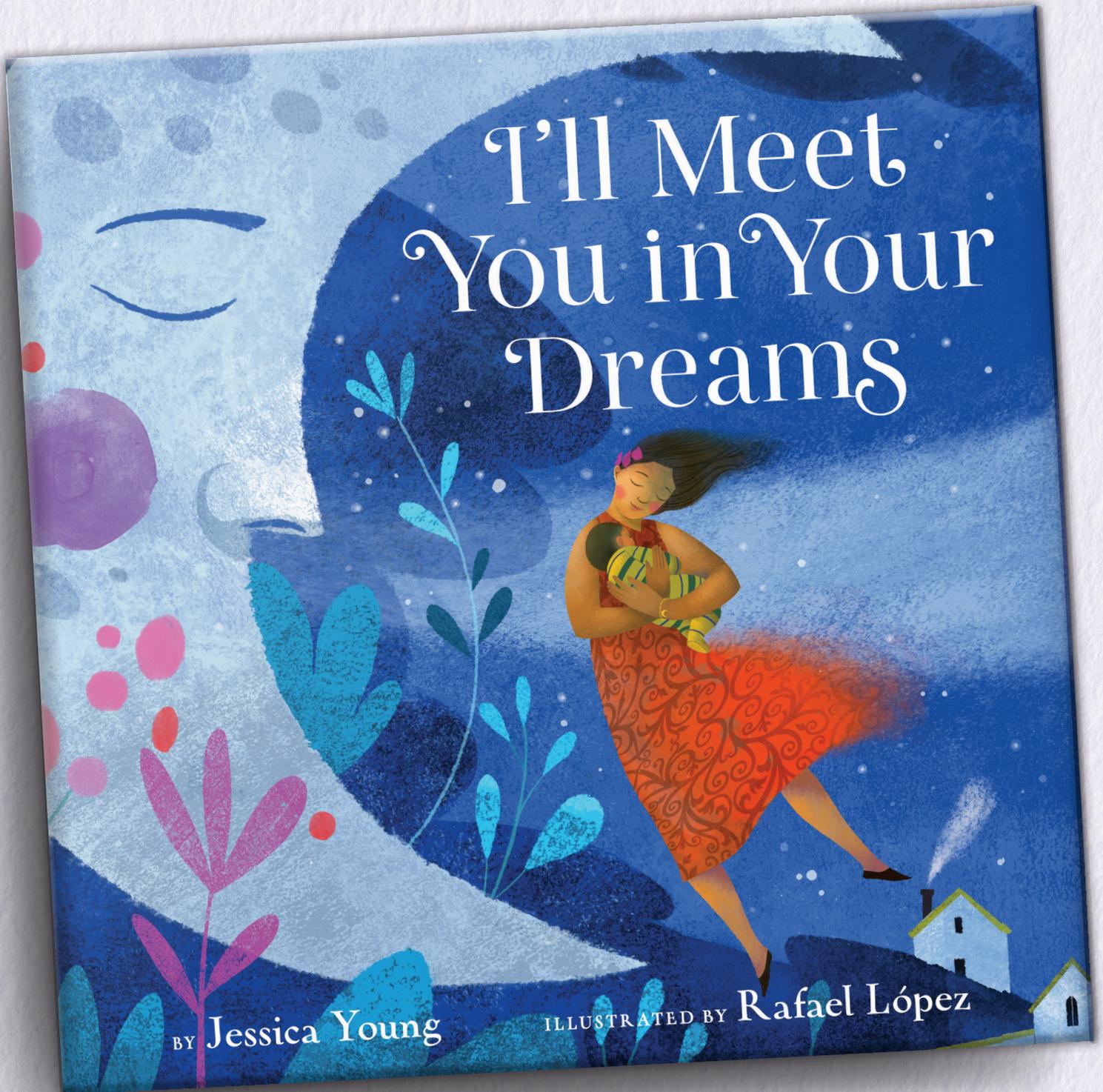


LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Teaching Tips | Ages 4 & Up



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Classroom Activities

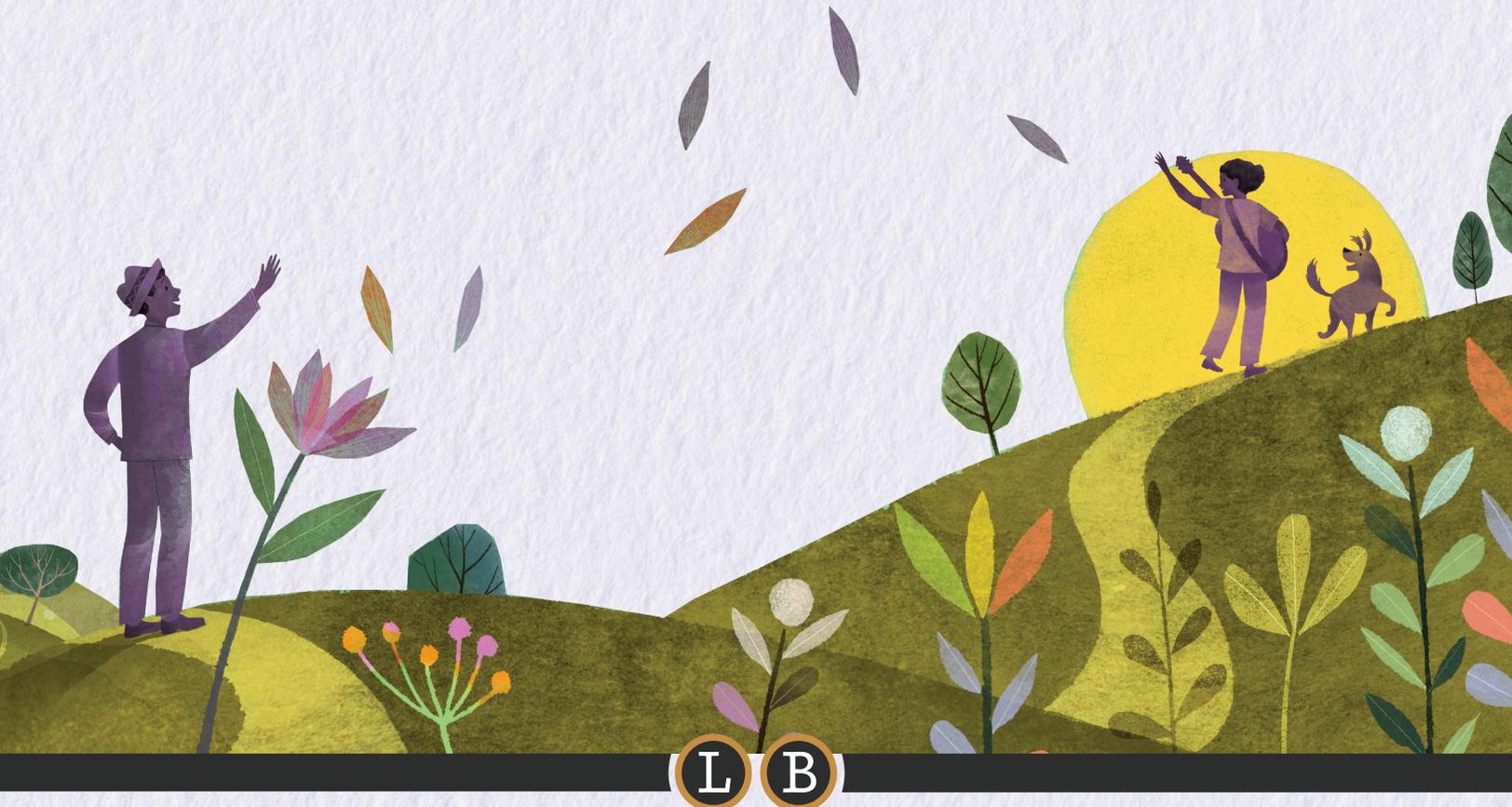
1. Read *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* with students and ask them how the children in the story grow from the beginning of the book to the end. Have them point out examples. Discuss how living things, including humans, grow and change. Have students think of other examples (birds learn to fly; seeds grow into trees; caterpillars become butterflies; etc.).
2. In the beginning of the book, there is a picture of a mother holding her child close. Ask students to think of other things people can do to take care of a baby. Ask them to raise their hands if they have a younger sibling. Then ask them to raise their hands if they are the youngest child in their family.
3. Have students think about/research ways that different animals take care of their young. Ask them to compare and contrast the way animals care for their young with the way humans take care of their babies. Have them think about/research how long it takes for baby animals to become independent and how they learn what they need to know to survive.
4. Ask students to bring in pictures from when they were babies/toddlers/younger. Ask them to share the pictures and describe what's happening in them (who, when, where, etc.). Before this activity, you could post the pictures on the wall and have students guess who is in each one.
5. Ask students to get a parent or other family member to help them fill in blanks:
 - When I was a baby/toddler/younger, my favorite food was _____.
 - Now I like _____.
 - My first word/a favorite word was _____.
 - I really liked to _____ when I was a baby/toddler/younger.
 - Now I like to _____.
 - When I was younger, some of my favorite books were _____.
 - Now my favorite books are _____.

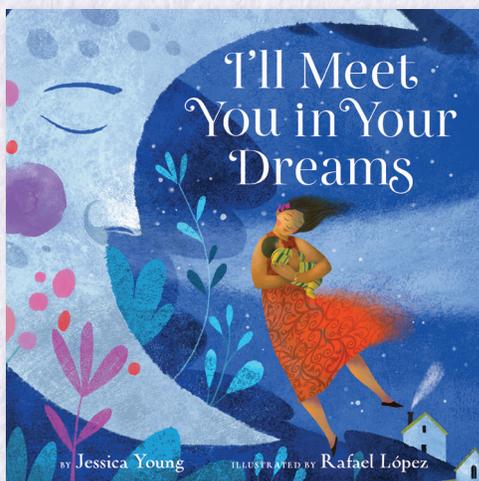


I'll Meet You in Your Dreams

- When I was younger, my favorite toy was _____.
- Now I like to play with _____.

6. Have students draw a memory from when they were young. You can prompt them to remember certain places or times—a vacation, a family gathering or event, or a funny story. Ask them to use the five senses to describe the memories they've drawn.
7. Have students bring in photos of themselves at different ages and create timelines of their lives, labeling each photo with their age and where it was taken and adding details they can remember.
8. Ask students to identify a part of *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* where one of the characters has to be far away from a loved one. Ask how the characters might feel. Discuss that while we all have times that we miss people we love, there are things we can do to keep in touch or to remember them. Ask students what some of those things could be.
9. Discuss nighttime dreams. How are they like stories? How are they like imagination? Ask your students to remember a nighttime dream they had and draw it.
10. Discuss how there are other kinds of "dreams" that are a mixture of imagination and hopes for the future. Give your students an example of a dream you had for yourself when you were younger. Tell them a dream you have for them when they get older and ask what dreams they have for themselves for the future. Have them draw a picture of a dream they have for themselves and write (or have you write) something to describe it. Ask what they could do to work towards that dream.





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About the book

This poetic and tender story celebrates the parent-and-child bond in its many forms and offers gentle assurance of love across a lifetime. Two parents' dreams of the future with their children—from early dependence for nourishment and basic needs, to the parent as home base for a child in later life—mirror an always changing but unbreakable relationship.

Written in lyrical rhyme and accompanied by breathtaking art by the incomparable Rafael López, *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* affirms that parental love is a constant force, transcending boundaries of space and time.

Praise for the book

★ "Combining LYRICAL WORDS with VIBRANT PAINTINGS and occasionally rotating spreads, Young and López weave a rich tapestry that honors the process of children's self-determination over time."

—Kirkus Reviews

About the Author and Illustrator



Jessica Young was raised and grew up in Northern Ontario and is the author of several picture books including *My Blue Is Happy* (a

Charlotte Zolotow Highly Commended Title and recipient of the Marion Vannett Ridgway Award); *Play This Book* and *Pet This Book*; and *A Wish Is a Seed*. Jessica spends her time writing and researching and doing school visits. Prior to her writing career, she was a teacher for twenty years, and freelanced for a children's book marketing company. She lives with her family in Nashville.



Rafael López is an internationally recognized illustrator and artist. He has illustrated numerous picture books, including *Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave,*

Be You by Sonia Sotomayor (winner of the Schneider Family Award); *Dancing Hands, How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln* by Margarita Engle (winner of the Pura Belpré Medal); and *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson (a *New York Times* bestseller) to name a few. He is the founder of the Urban Art Trail movement in San Diego and currently resides in both San Diego and Mexico.