Discussion and Activity Guide



Art © by Christian Robinson. Photo by Danny Williams. Photo © John Kwiatowski

The stunning new picture book by bestselling and world-renowned poet

Amanda Gorman

and award-winning illustrator

Christian Robinson

About the book

Something, Someday, written by Amanda Gorman and illustrated by Christian Robinson, is a story about making change. A young child witnesses a problem in his community. While he is told the problem is not a problem, he knows there's something wrong. He is told to wait, that his idea will never work.
He is told not to hope for change. Sometimes he thinks he will do this work alone forever.

Until he meets someone who believes in his plan. Together, he and the people in his community work to solve a problem and make the world more beautiful.

This story is a reminder that we can all make a difference, no matter how big or small.



Praise for *Something, Someday*

★ **"Gorman immerses readers in the experience,** assuring them that they are not alone in their longings for a better world."

—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★ **"[A] soaring poem about change . . .** Robinson's neighborhood scenes, portraying a community of varying abilities, ages, and skin tones, model collaboration as a means for metamorphosis."

—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ **"Invites the audience to feel as if they're a part of the story** and empowered to change something within their community."

—*School Library Journal*, starred review

This guide was written in collaboration with Vera Ahiyya (née Corbett). Vera was born in Germany and raised in El Paso, Texas, with her wonderful mother and amazing grandparents. Originally a pre-med student, Vera realized her calling as an educator at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, where she majored in history and psychology and earned her MA in education. Vera has taught kindergarten and first grade for the last sixteen years in Austin, Boston, and Brooklyn. Vera's online presence is dedicated to influencing other educators by spreading her vast knowledge and love of diverse children's books. Vera's unwavering commitment to social justice and diversity is also the focal point of her professional development presentations for other educators. Vera lives in Portland, Oregon, with her husband, Lonnell, and her dog, Mozi.

Young children are a conduit for change.

They have the ability to see the world in a way that is inspirational. The following activities are guides to help encourage the students/children you work with to see the inspiration for change within their community.

Use the questions to guide important conversations that will act as a catalyst for the changemakers of the future.

Read-Aloud Prompts

***Something, Someday* is the perfect year-round read-aloud.**

- Use the book as a way to spark ideas of how to work together at the beginning of the school year.
- Revisit it in the winter to dig deeper into ways to acknowledge the injustices and inequities in our daily lives.
- Round out the school year by using this book to encourage your students to take action. In what ways will we make things better for the students coming after us?



Activities & Questions

Discussion Questions

With the help/permission of your grown-up, go on a walk around your neighborhood.

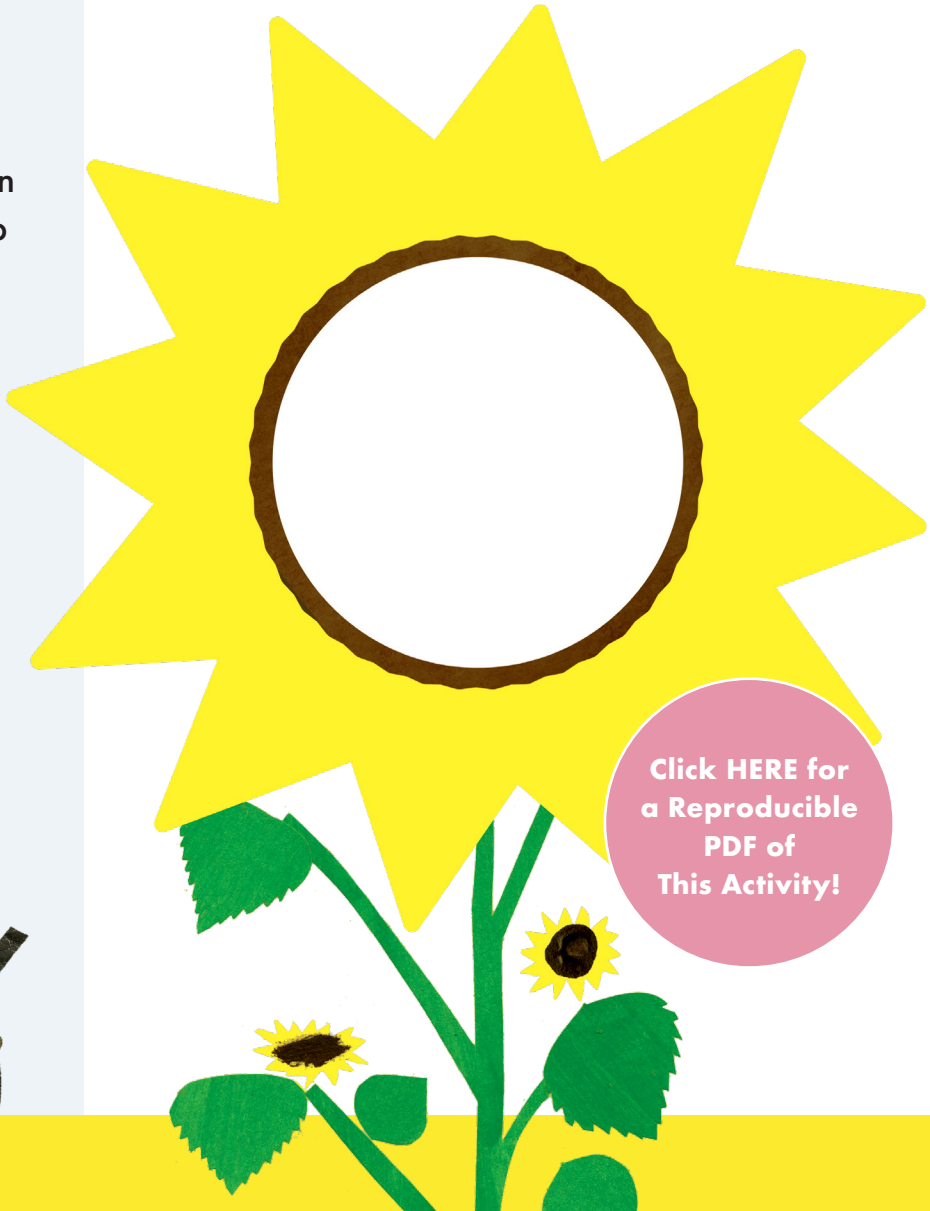
- What do you notice about the area you live in?
- Are there ways you can make the space cleaner?
- Are there ways you can make the space you live in more inclusive?
- Are there people in your area/ neighborhood who need help?
- How can you help?
- Did you know that young people can make a difference, just by speaking up for what they believe is right?
- What are some things you want to speak up about?
- How do you let people know what you believe in?



Look at the flower below.

- In the center of the flower, write or draw one problem in your home, neighborhood, school, or community.
- On each petal, write or draw different ways you can work to help fix that problem.
- When you are finished, share your flower with people who will help you solve the problem.

Work together to make things better!



Click HERE for a Reproducible PDF of This Activity!

Activities & Questions Continued:

Hope is wanting certain things to happen.

- What are some things you hope for?
- Make a list of all the things you hope for.

Look at the illustrations throughout the book.

- What do you notice about the illustrations by Christian Robinson?
- Do the illustrations inspire you to create art?
- Many artists use their talent to speak up about making a difference.
- Can you create art that will inspire others to make a difference?

Working together is the best way to make a change.

- In the story, the little boy works with a little girl to fix a problem together.
- Who are the people you know that you want to work together with?
- Write a letter to your friend asking them to help you solve a problem.
- Be sure to thank them for their friendship.

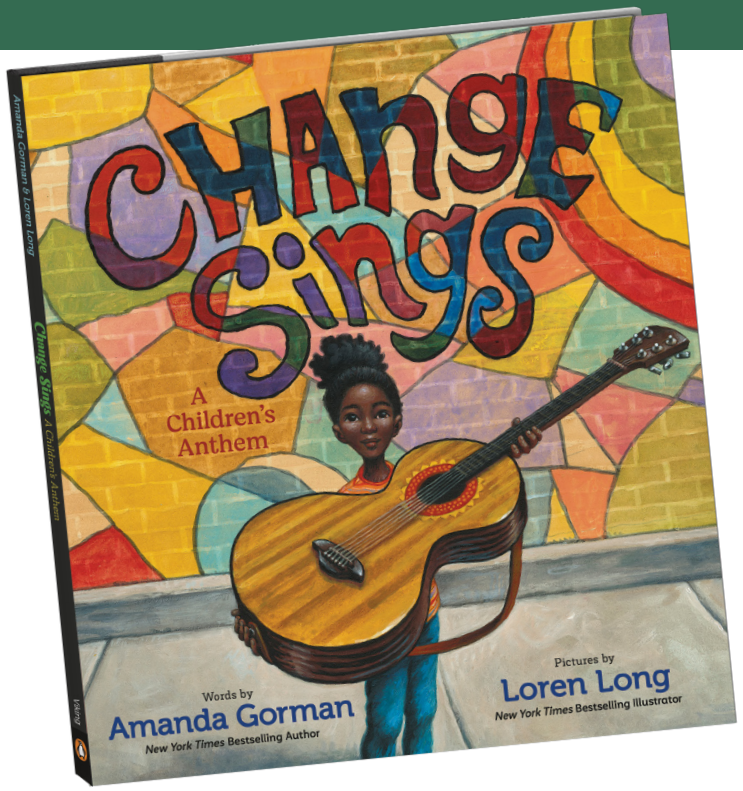


The author, Amanda Gorman, is a poet. She inspired the nation when she spoke at the US presidential inauguration. Amanda's work focuses on hope and inspiring young people to make a difference.

- When you read/listened to the story, what about Amanda's words inspired you?
- Do you feel like her words make it possible for you to make a difference?
- Can you create a poem that will inspire others?

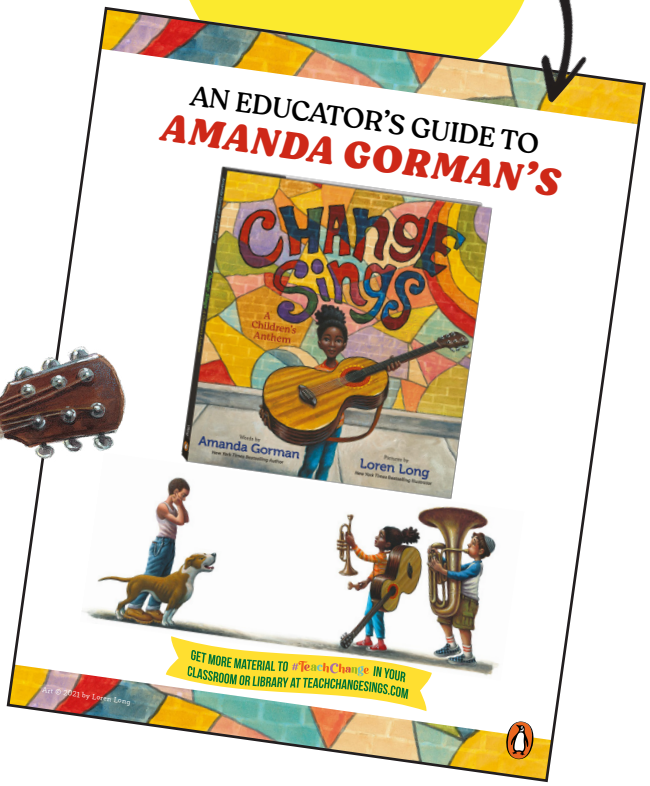
Share Amanda Gorman's *CHANGE SINGS* with your class or library!

#TeachChange in your school, library, or community with *CHANGE SINGS*



"I can hear change humming
In its loudest, proudest song.
I don't fear change coming,
And so I sing along."

DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE!





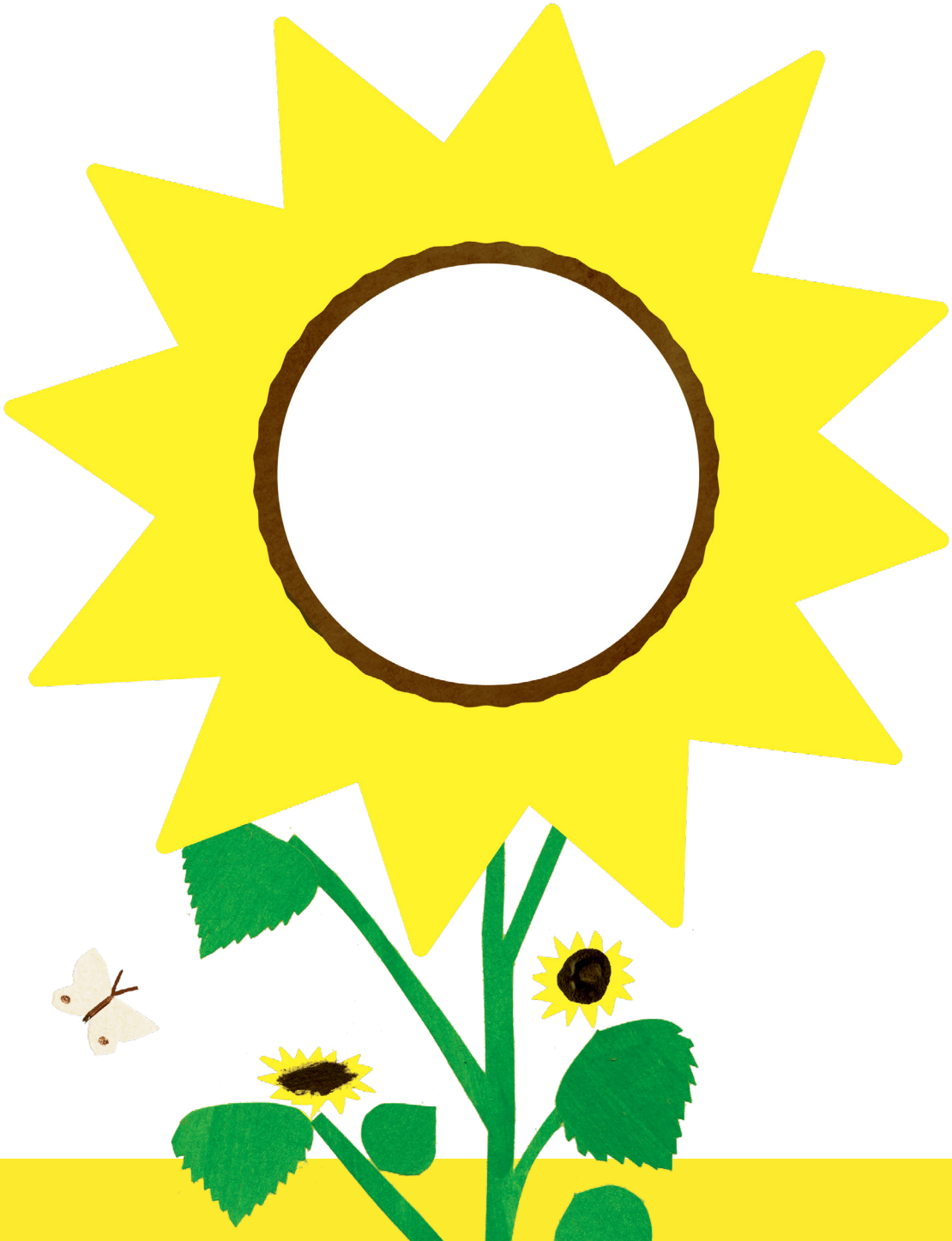
★ **"[A] hopeful celebration of the life-affirming power of change to ripple out into a better future is irresistible."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review**

Art © 2021 by Loren Long

Look at the flower below.

- In the center of the flower, write or draw one problem in your home, neighborhood, school, or community.
- On each petal, write or draw different ways you can work to help fix that problem.
- When you are finished, share your flower with people who will help you solve the problem.

Work together to make things better!

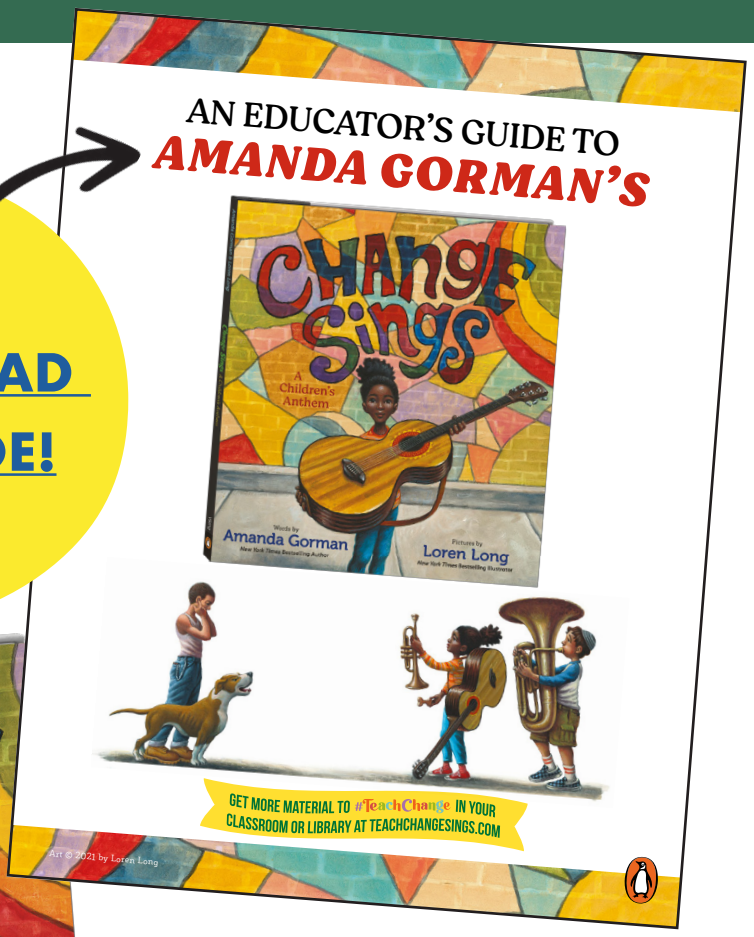


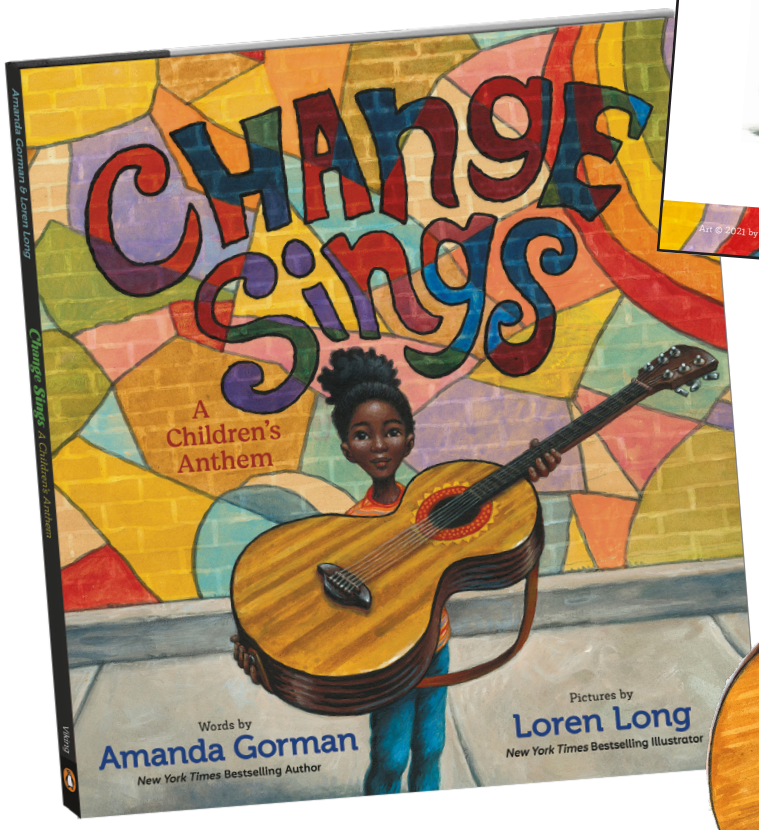
Art © by Christian Robinson

Share Amanda Gorman's CHANGE SINGS with your class or library!



DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE!

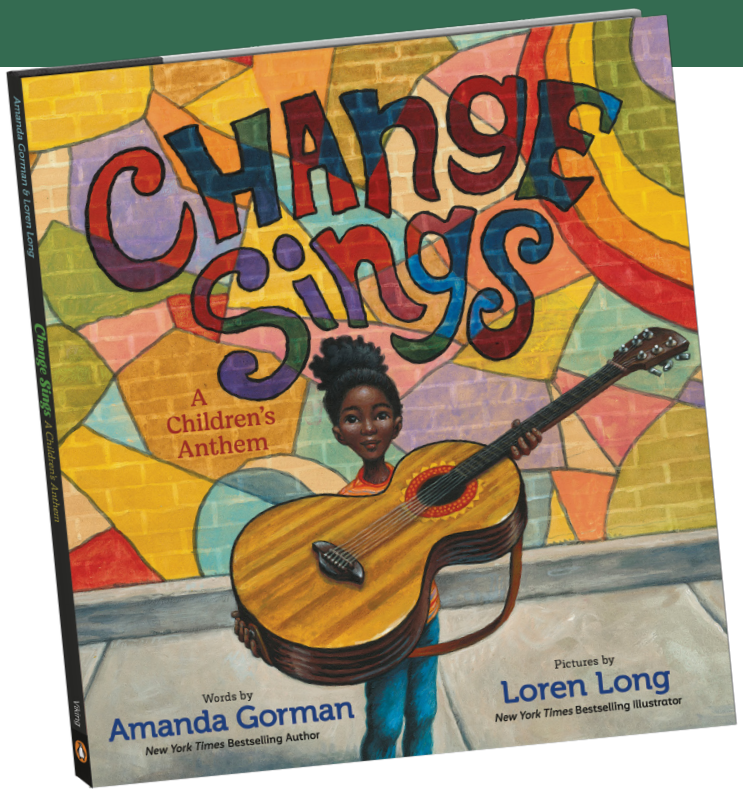






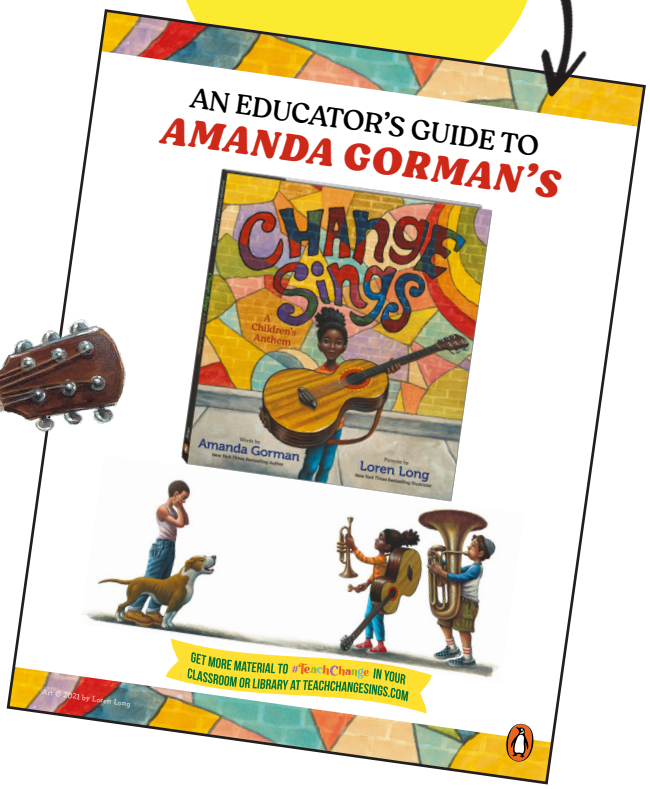
Art © 2021 by Loren Long

#TeachChange in your school, library, or community with CHANGE SINGS



"I can hear change humming
In its loudest, proudest song.
I don't fear change coming,
And so I sing along."

DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE!





★ **"[A] hopeful celebration of the life-affirming power of change to ripple out into a better future is irresistible."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review**

Art © 2021 by Loren Long

Young children are a conduit for change.

They have the ability to see the world in a way that is inspirational. The following activities are guides to help encourage the students/children you work with to see the inspiration for change within their community.

Use the questions to guide important conversations that will act as a catalyst for the changemakers of the future.

Read Aloud Prompt

***Something, Someday* is the perfect year-round read-aloud.**

- Use the book as a way to spark ideas of how to work together at the beginning of the school year.
- Revisit it in the winter to dig deeper into ways to acknowledge the injustices and inequities in our daily lives.
- Round out the school year by using this book to encourage your students to take action. In what ways will we make things better for the students coming after us?



Discussion Questions

- **With the help/permission of your grown-up, go on a walk around your neighborhood.**
- What do you notice about the area you live in? Are there ways you can make the space cleaner?
- Are there ways you can make the space you live in more inclusive?
- Are there people in your area/ neighborhood who need help? How can you help?
- Did you know that young people can make a difference, just by speaking up for what they believe is right?
- What are some things you want to speak up about?
- How do you let people know what you believe in?