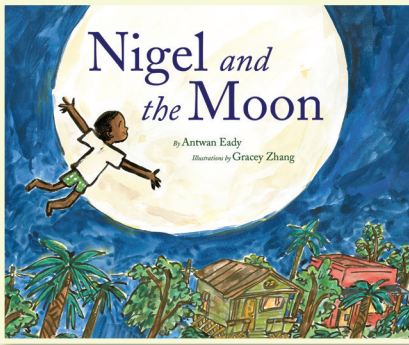


# Nigel *and the* Moon



*By* Antwan Eady

*Illustrations by* Gracey Zhang



# Nigel and the Moon

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## About the Book

Nigel has big dreams, but he only tells them to the moon. Nigel feels different from his classmates, and he is worried that they will make fun of his dreams or laugh at his parents' jobs during career week. But Nigel is surprised to learn that he and his classmates are more connected than he thought, and that finding his voice and sharing his dreams is not actually scary at all!

## Discussion Questions

- What are Nigel's dreams? Why does he share his dreams only with the moon?
- What is career week? How does Nigel feel when he and his schoolmates travel to the library to read about different jobs?
- What do you notice about Nigel and his classmates? How do you think Nigel feels?
- Nigel thinks about telling the world his dreams, but he "quivers at the thought." What does this mean? Why does he feel this way?
- What jobs do Nigel's classmates' parents have?
- What are Nigel's parents' jobs?
- What happens on the final day of career week?
- What does Nigel realize about his parents' jobs? What does he realize about his own dreams?
- How do you think Nigel feels after he shares his dreams with the class?

## Extension Activities

**When I Grow Up.** Discuss Nigel and his classmates' dreams for their future. Ask the children what jobs their parents have, and then ask them to think about what they might want to be when they grow up. Have them write a narrative about why they made this choice. As an extension, plan a Career Day in which the students come dressed as their future occupation. Or, as in Nigel's class, invite parents to school to talk about their careers.

**Book It.** Just as Nigel's class goes to the library to read books about different jobs, you can plan a class trip to the library. As an alternative, you can bring a collection of books about jobs into the classroom. Have the children read several of these books and discuss the jobs featured in the book. Are they interested in those jobs? Why or why not? How are the jobs similar? How are they different?

## I am Special.

Nigel feels different than his classmates. Discuss why this might be. Also discuss how everyone is different from each other, but that this is what makes each of us special and unique. Discuss how Nigel is special and ask the children to think about why they are also special. Have them write about why they are unique and add illustrations to accompany their writing. Younger children can dictate their thoughts to an adult and then add the illustrations.

**Moonlight, Starlight.** When Nigel looks out at the night sky, he sees the moon and it brings him comfort. Discuss what else Nigel might see in the night sky (e.g., stars and constellations, planets, clouds, different phases of the moon). Ask the children what they see in the sky at night. Have them observe the night sky at home and prepare to share their observations with the class the next day. They can orally share what they saw in the night sky, but also draw or paint their observations. Older students can write about their observations of the night sky.

