

# Welcome!

## NGCP National Webinar: Breaking Stereotypes Through Children's Books



National Girls  
Collaborative Project



A young girl with freckles is looking intently at a science experiment in a classroom. She is holding a green lollipop-like object on a stick. In the background, there are other similar objects and a large yellow balloon. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

**NGCP**

20 YEARS TRANSFORMING STEM

# Breaking Stereotypes Through Children's Books

April 27, 2023

# NGCP Vision

The vision of the National Girls Collaborative Project is to **support and create STEM experiences** that are as **diverse as the world we live in.**



# Our Goals

Connect + Create + Collaborate

1

**Build and sustain a network** of advocates to provide equitable and inclusive STEM opportunities.

2

**Catalyze equity in STEM** from research to practice by providing actionable knowledge that transforms the STEM experience.

3

**Increase our collective impact** by strengthening organizational effectiveness and enhancing our fiscal sustainability.



# NGCP Activities

- Network Partnerships
- IF/THEN Collection
- FabFems
- Youth Advisory Board
- State Leadership Teams



# National Webinars

- Offered monthly on topics to help our networks grow and thrive
- Speakers include educators, researchers, authors, and diverse STEM professionals
- Sign up: <https://www.ngcproject.org/events-announcements>

"I have gotten more out of this than the dozens of other presentations I have attended this summer."

"I found this useful and enjoyable."

"I really like all the resources placed in the chat that I can go and flip through to find what is most helpful to my organization"



# NGCP Newsletter

- National in-person and online events
- STEM resources for engaging girls and youth, professional development opportunities for educators, and opportunities for youth
- Research and reports related to STEM and equity, informal STEM education and learning
- NGCP updates and events, including webinars, knowledge products, and tools



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April 27, 2023



# Speakers



**Dr. Dieuwertje "DJ" Kast**  
University of Southern California

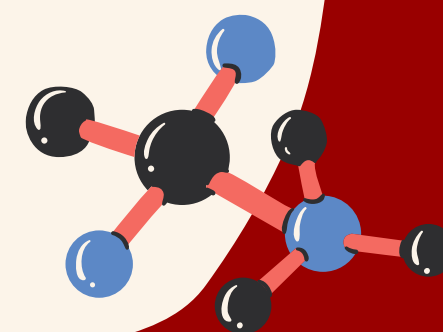


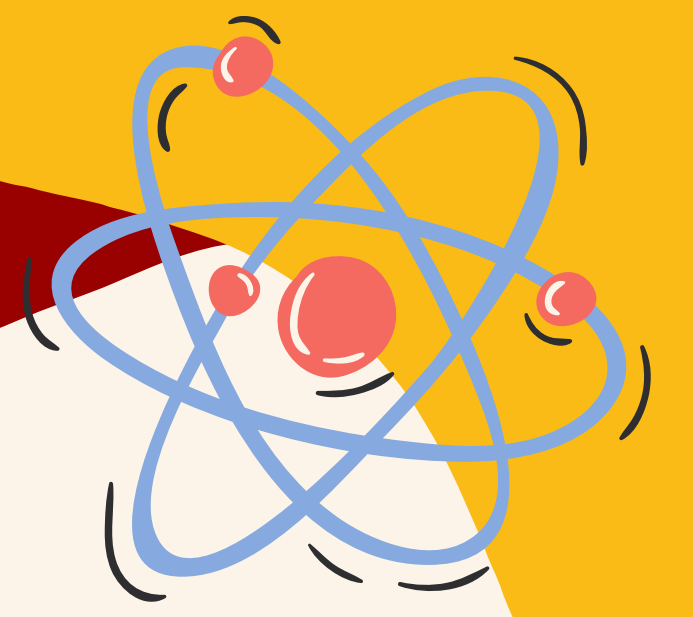
**Katherine Locke**  
Author



# Breaking Stereotypes through Children's literature

by Dr. DJ Kast






USC

**JEPSTEM**   
EDUCATION PROGRAMS



## STEM in Los Angeles

- 40% of elementary educators in California's public schools say they spend an hour or less teaching science per week

- About 85% of elementary teachers reported not having any PD in science over the last 3 years
  - Elementary school teachers that are uncomfortable teaching science, don't teach it
- 



## Positive Feedback Loop

- Missing STEM content in elementary (K-3)
- 4th and 5th grade students performing poorly in STEM Standardized testing

- Lack of AP level STEM classes in High School
- can cause low-income students to switch majors or drop out all together.





## Community Demographics

- 84% Latinx, 10.4% Black
- 93% low-income (free/reduced lunch)

- 30.2% - English Language Learners (98% Spanish speaking)

- 96.9% of our students are students of color





# Young Scientists Program (YSP)

## Elementary STEM

- STEM Content (NGSS aligned)
- Hands-on Experiments
- Grocery Store Science
- Scientists Guest Speakers
- Teacher PD





# Medical STEM Program (MSP)

## Medical STEM

- STEM Content (NGSS aligned)
- Hands-on Experiments
- Medical Guest Speakers
  - Researchers, nurses, PT's, cancer survivors







# Wonderkids

## Elementary STEM

- K-5 afterschool STEM program
- -ologies
  - Exploring STEAM Fields
- Interdisciplinary
  - Science, Math and Literacy





# DIVERSITY IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018

Percentage of books depicting characters from diverse backgrounds based on the 2018 publishing statistics compiled by the Cooperative Children's Book Center, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison:  
[ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp](http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp)



29 BOOKS  
**1%**  
American Indians/  
First Nations



170 BOOKS  
**5%**  
Latinx



219 BOOKS  
**7%**  
Asian Pacific  
Islander/Asian  
Pacific American



201 BOOKS  
**10%**  
African/  
African  
American



864 BOOKS  
**27%**  
Animals/Other



1568 BOOKS  
**50%**  
White



Illustration by David Huyck, in consultation with Sarah Park Deltien  
Released under a Creative Commons BY-SA license: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

The CCBC inventory includes 3,134 books published in 2018. This graphic would not have been possible without the statistics compiled by the CCBC, and the review and feedback we received from Edith Campbell, Molly Beth Griffin, K. T. Harting, Debbie Reese, Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, and Madeline Tyner. Many thanks.

# 2020 REPRESENTATION IN CHILDRENS PICTURE BOOKS



**41%** *White*



**29%** *Animals*



**12%** *Black*



**9%** *Asian*



**6%** *Latinx*



**3%** *Disability*

*0.001% Pacific Islander  
0.008% Arab  
0.15% Indigenous*

@lingobabies

2020 Statistics: the Cooperative Children's Book Center

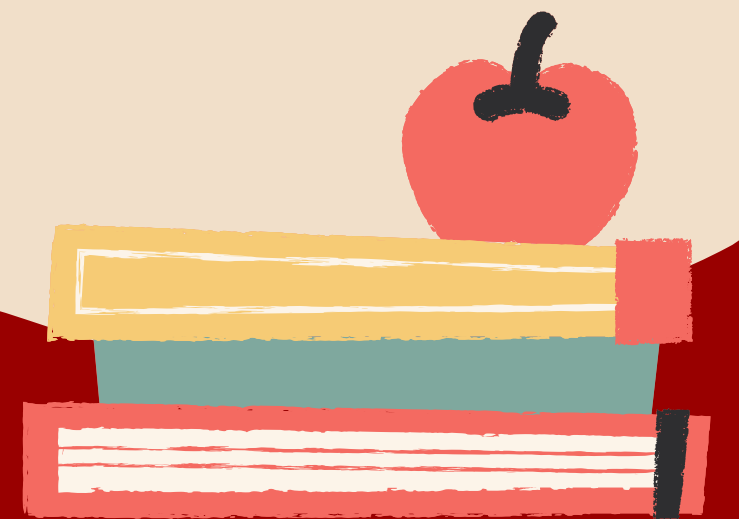


# Solutions





# **Room To Read & USC partnership**

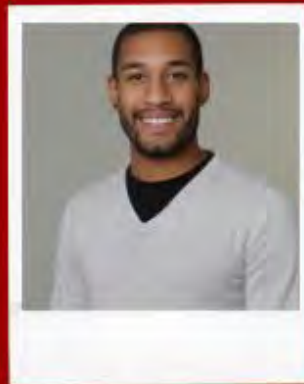
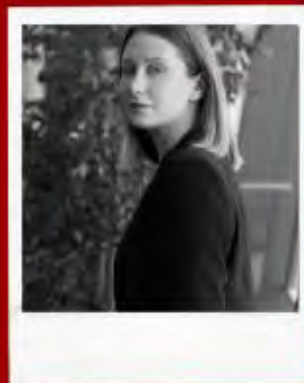


# Solutions



# CAREERS IN STEAM

SCIENTISTS



AUTHORS

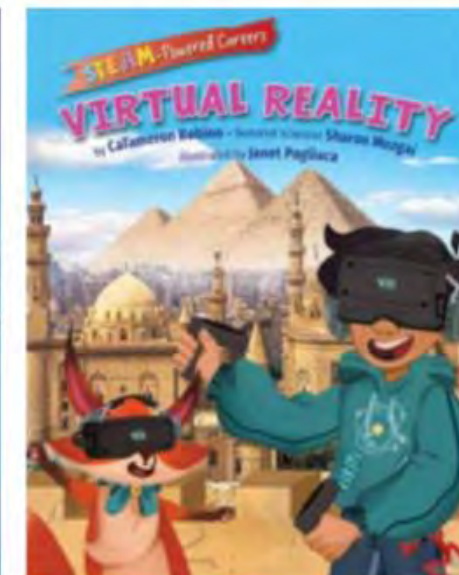
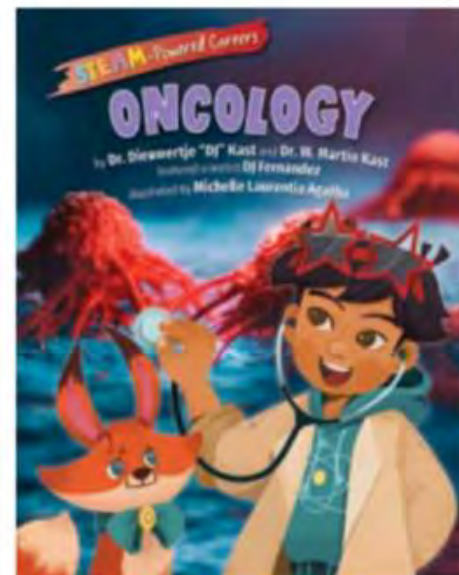
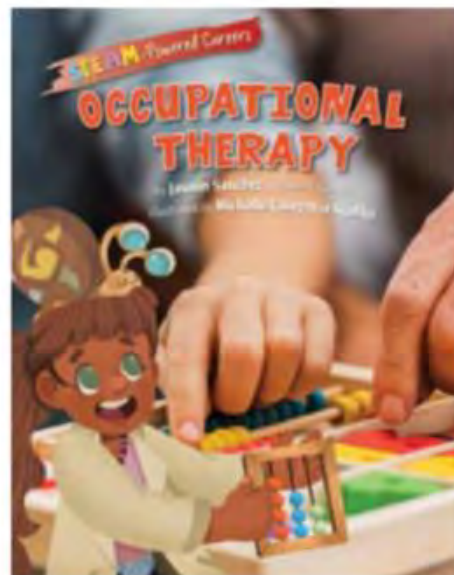
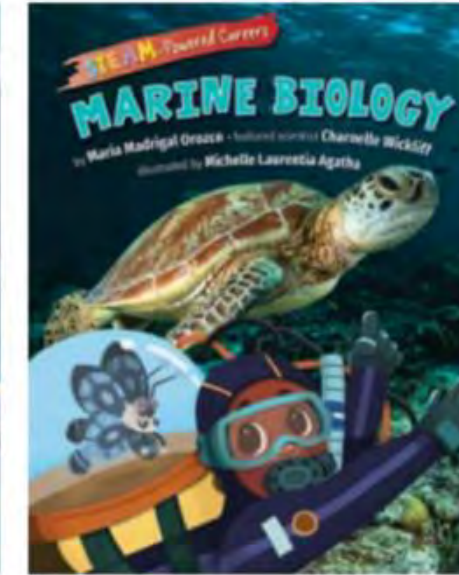




# Solutions

Explore the Complete

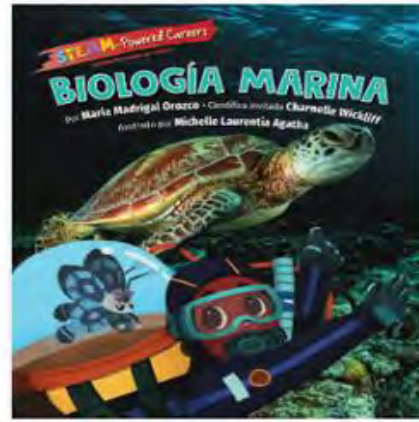
STEAM-Powered Careers Series!



## Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM 10 [Share](#)

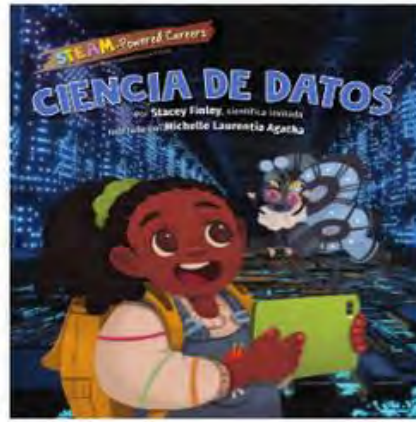
Created by [Room To Read](#)

¿Estás listo para una aventura científica? Síguenos en la casa club de STEAM, donde podemos hacer preguntas, explorar nuevos lugares y conocer científicos de la vida real. ¡Juntos, descubriremos STEAM a nuestro alrededor y aprenderemos formas en las que también podemos ser parte de él!



♥ 0 📖 0 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Charnele Wicklif](#), [Maria Madrigal](#)  
Illustrator [Michele Agatha](#)



♥ 0 📖 3 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Stacey Finley](#)  
Illustrator [Michele Agatha](#)



♥ 1 📖 0 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Dr. Dieuwertje "DJ" Kast](#), [Jocelyn Argente](#)  
Illustrator [Janet Pagliuca](#)



♥ 0 📖 2 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Ram Subramanyan](#), [Sean Tait](#)  
Illustrator [Janet Pagliuca](#)



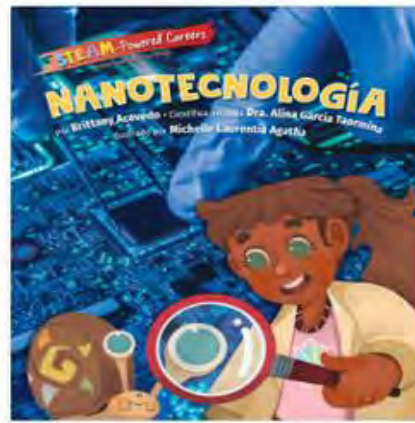
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Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Takeshi Saito](#), [Broke McMahon](#)  
Illustrator [Janet Pagliuca](#)



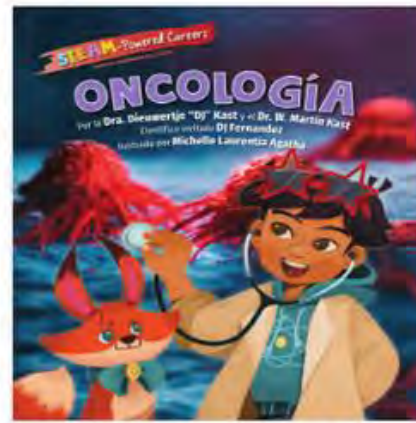
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Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Darin Gray](#), [Dijana Figueroa](#)  
Illustrator [Janet Pagliuca](#)



♥ 0 📖 0 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Alina Garcia Taormina](#), [Britany ...](#)  
Illustrator [Michele Agatha](#)



♥ 1 📖 1 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Daniel Jake \(DJ\) Fernandez](#), [Mar...](#)  
Illustrator [Michele Agatha](#)



♥ 0 📖 0 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Sharon Mozgai](#), [Cat Bobino](#)  
Illustrator [Janet Pagliuca](#)



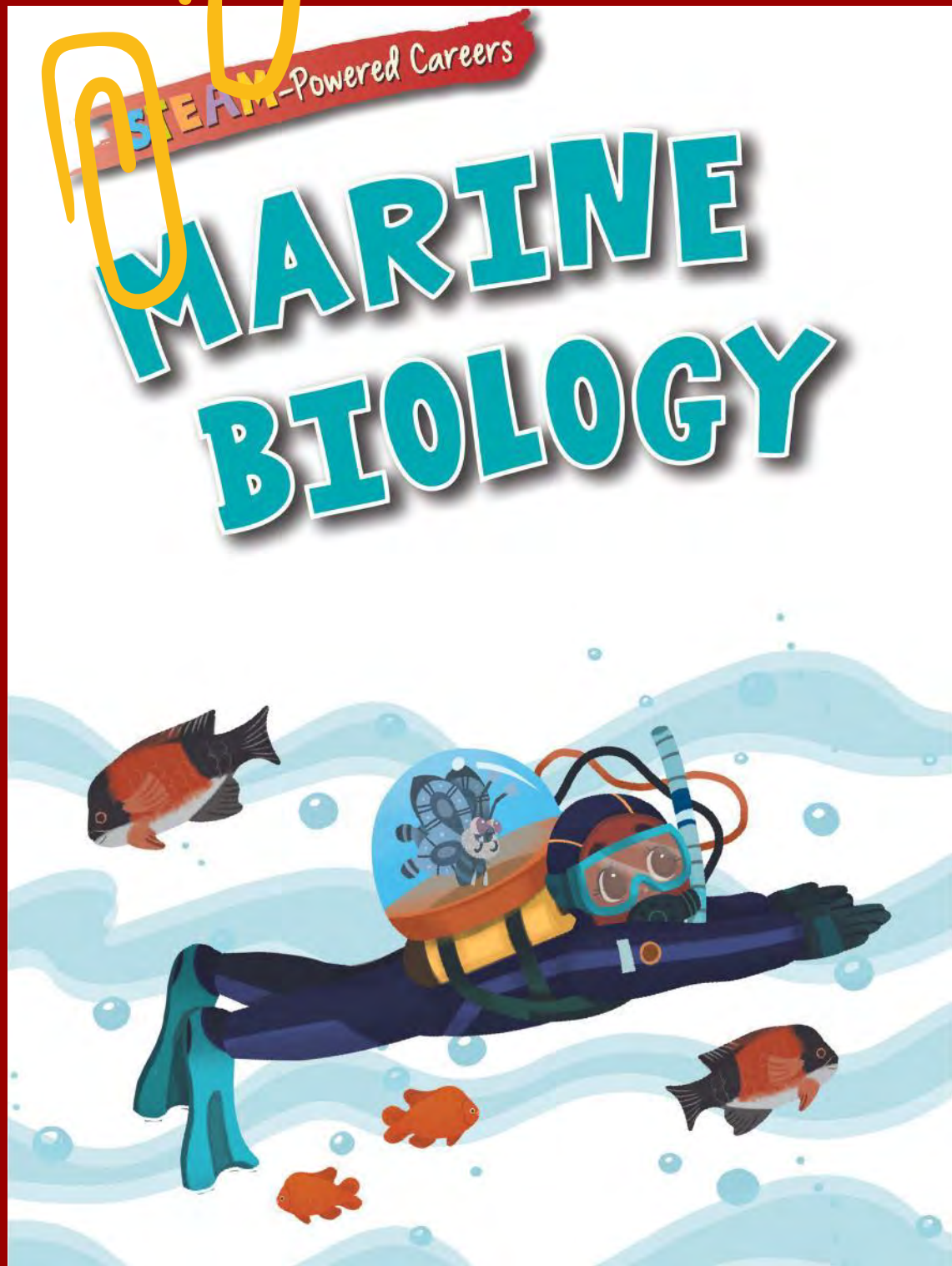
♥ 1 📖 0 Level 6

Carreras Impulsadas por STEAM ...  
Author [Jasmin Sanchez](#)  
Illustrator [Michele Agatha](#)

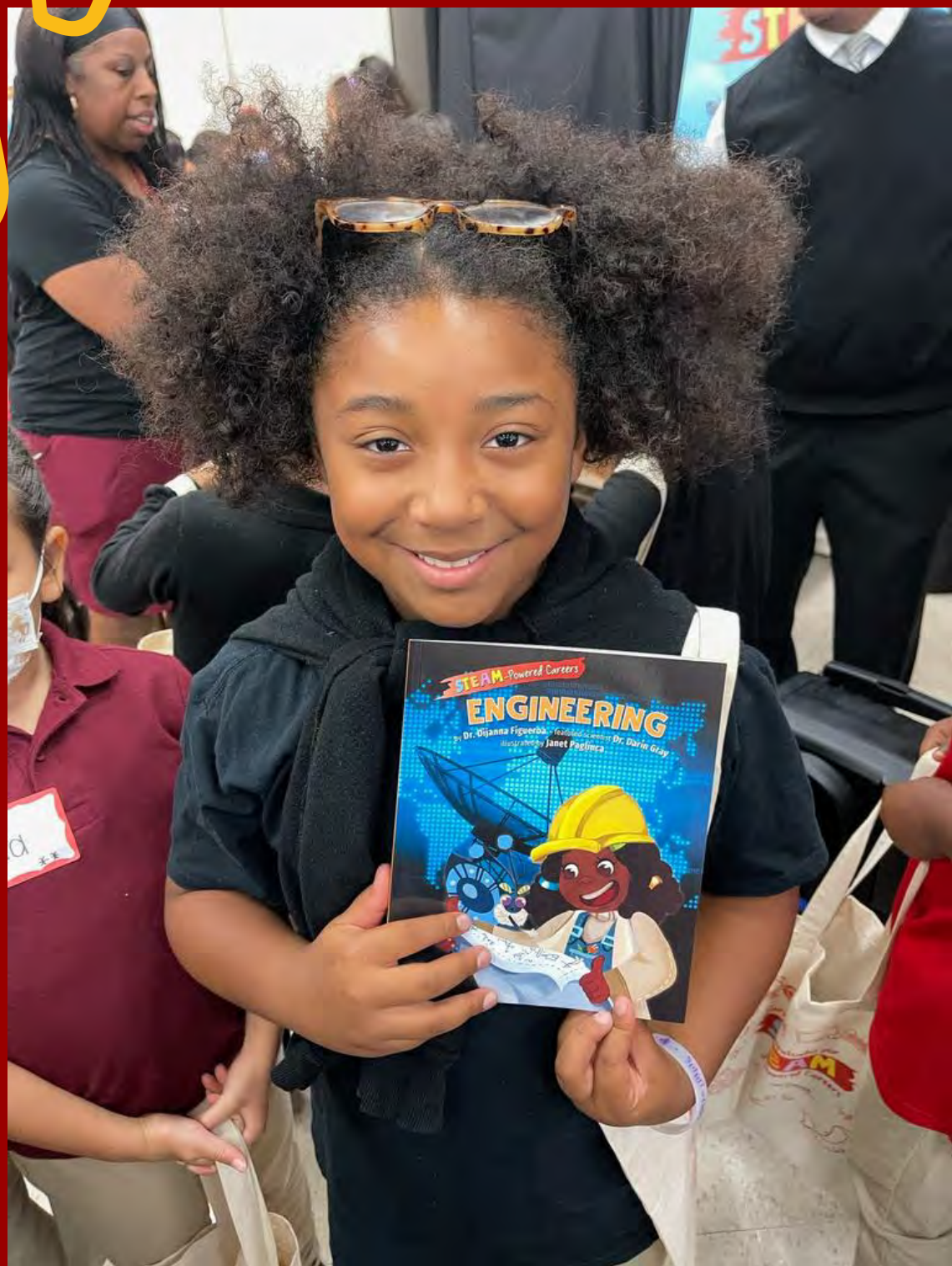


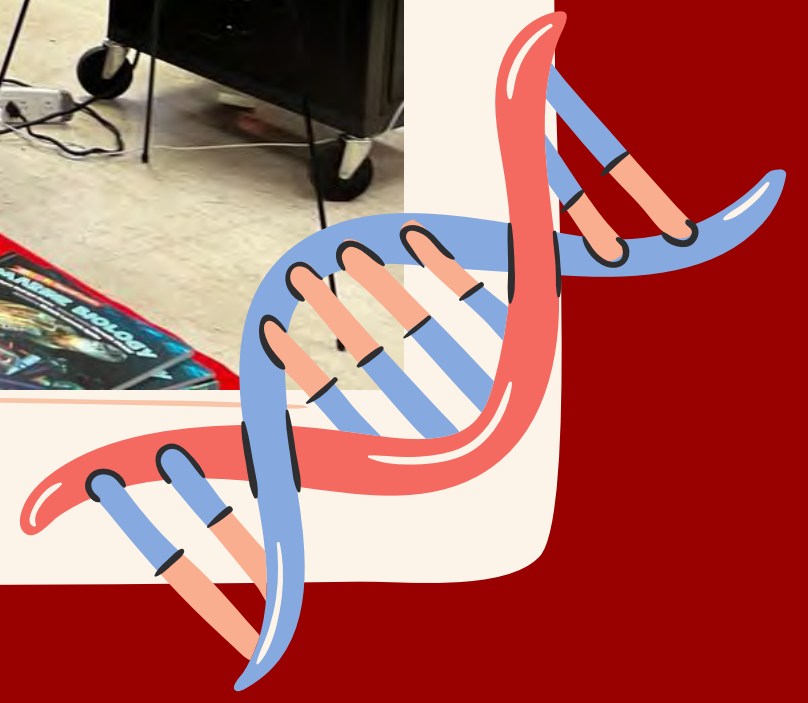


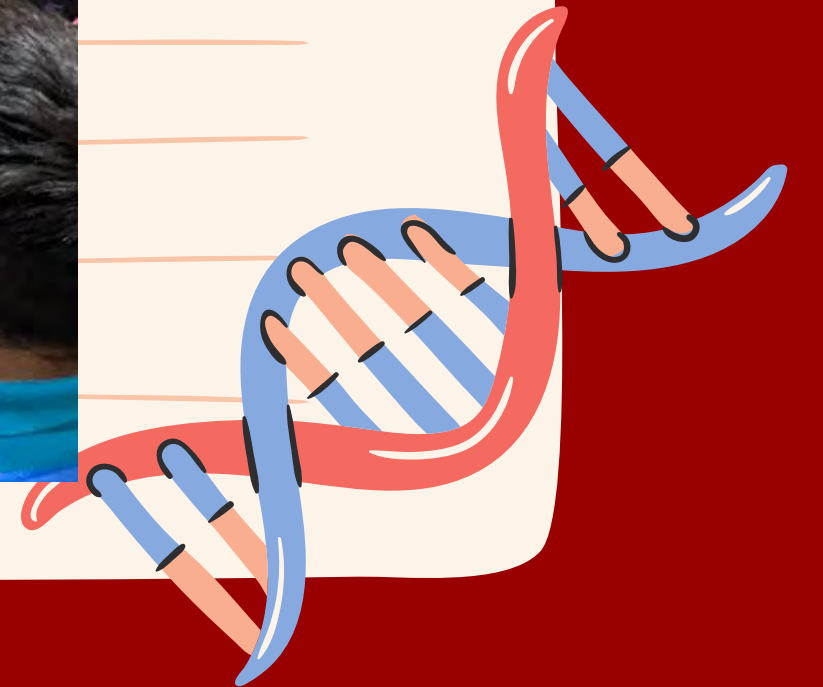
# Combating Stereotypes



# 900000

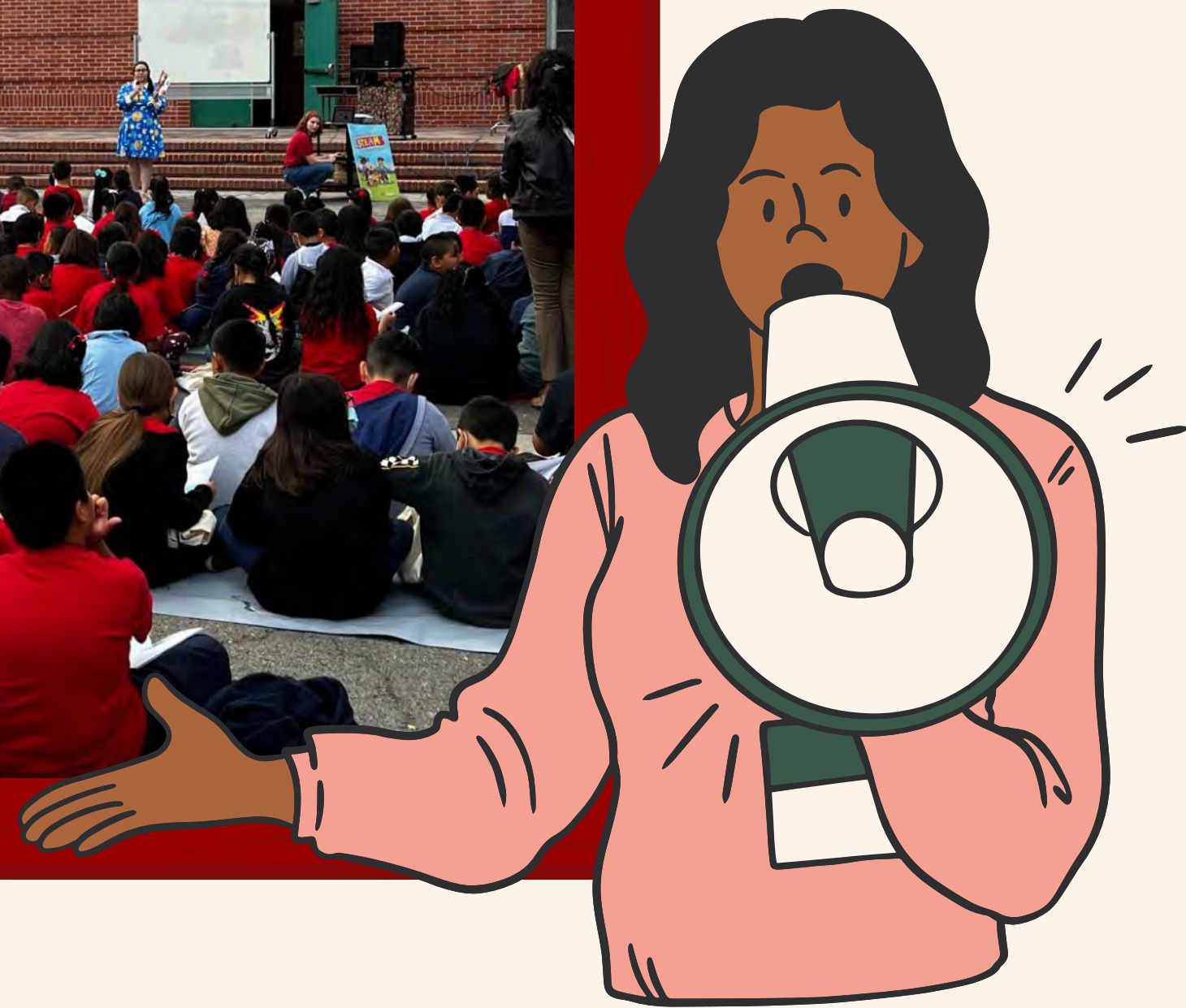
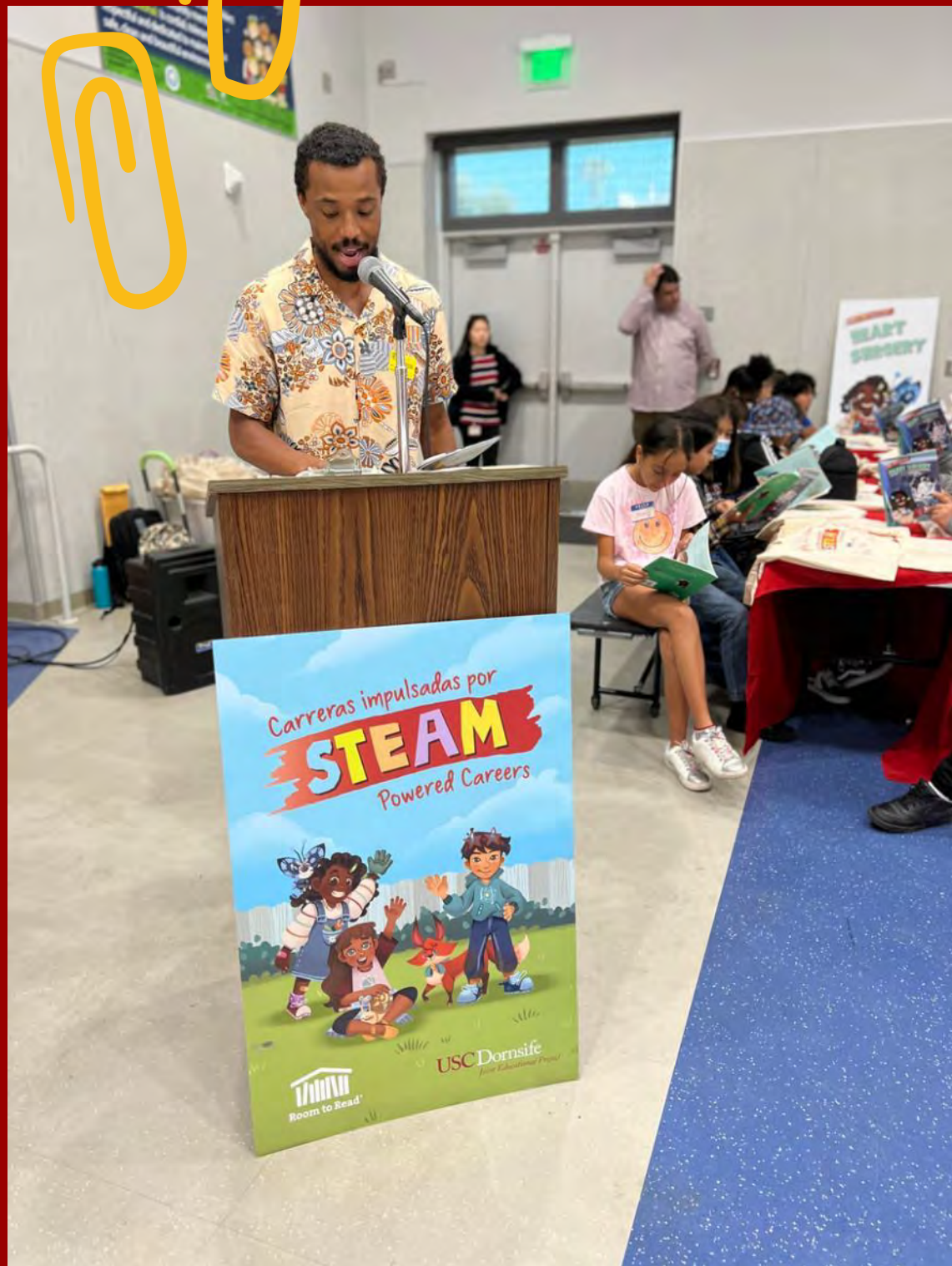


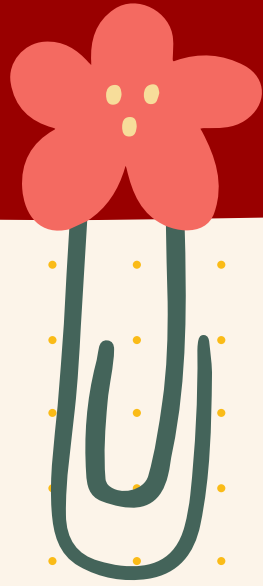












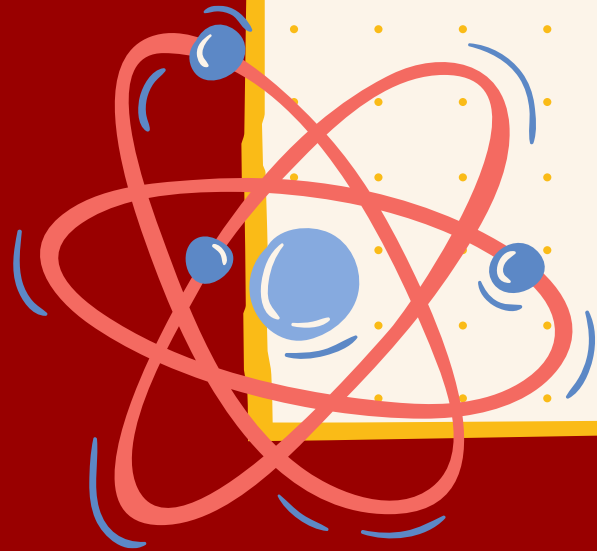
# Book Link

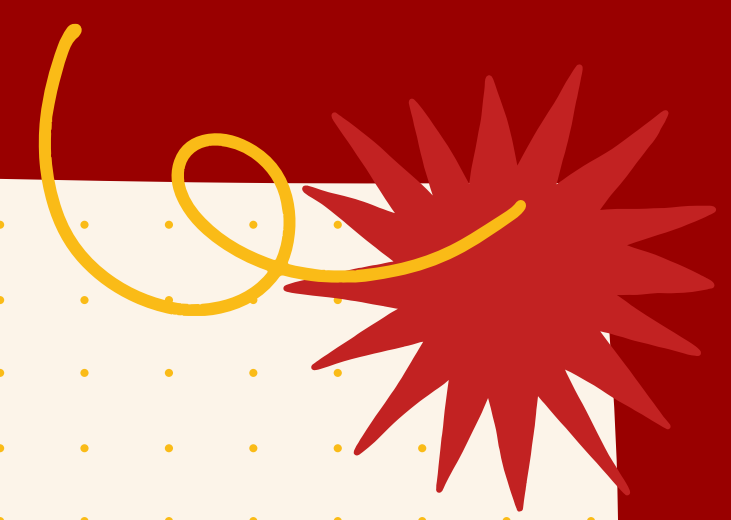
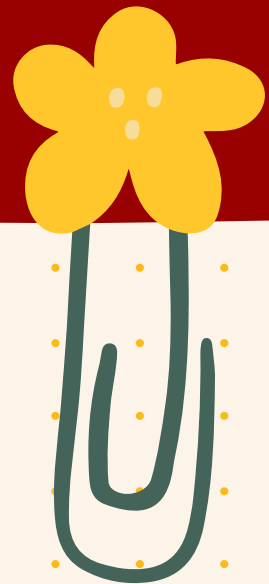
<https://www.roomtoread.org/steam>

digitally available for free

English and Spanish

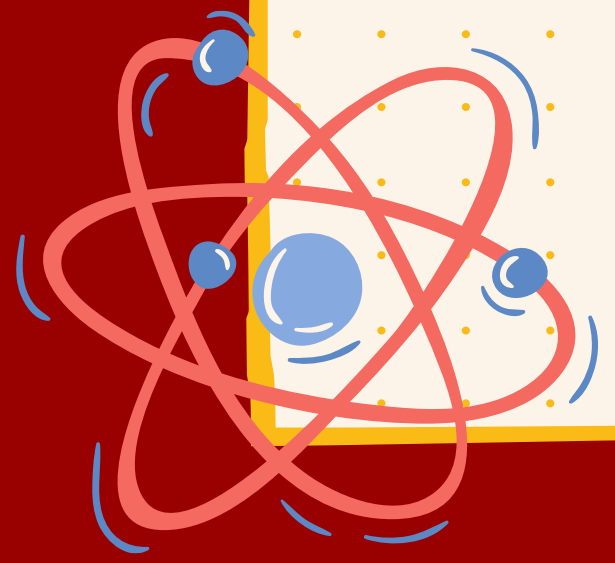
Lesson plans and interviews for educators





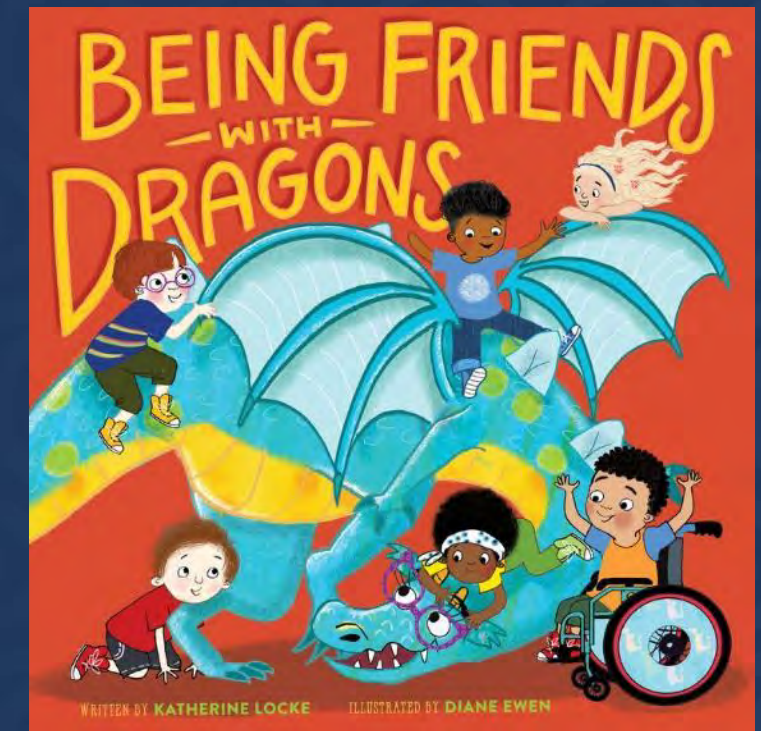
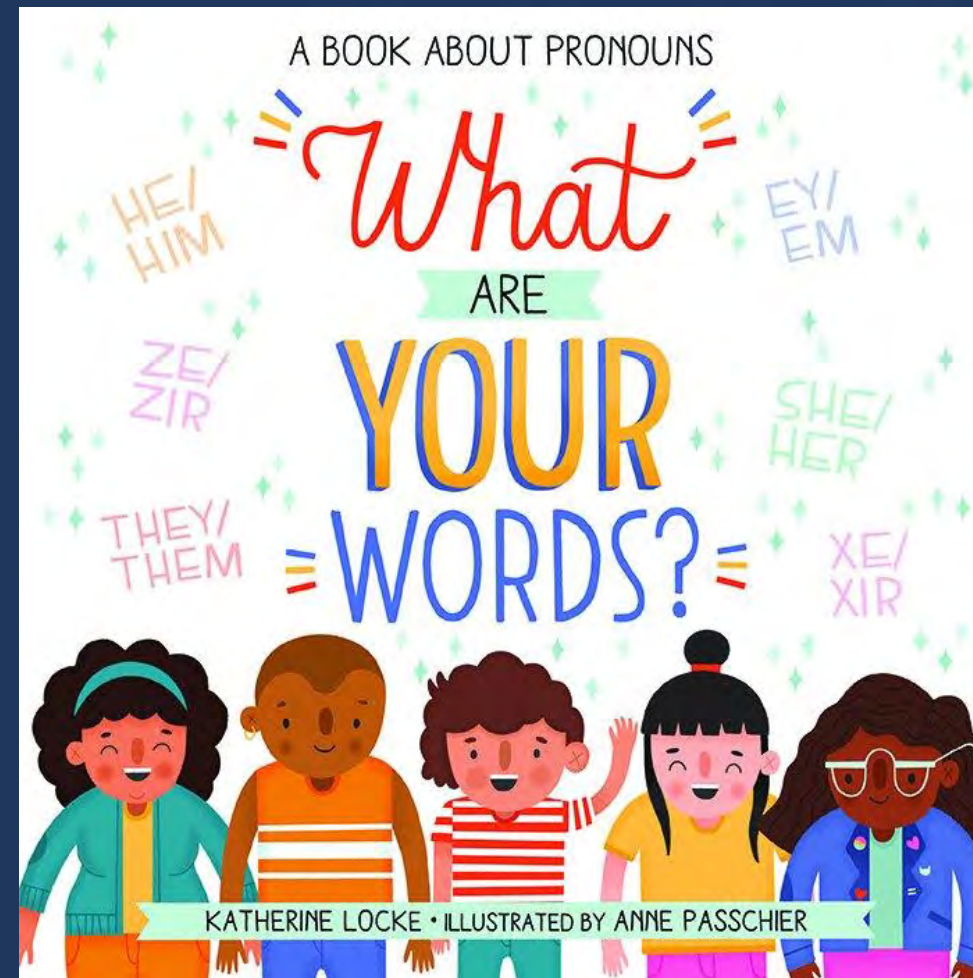
# Thank You

If you'd like to know more,  
please email me at  
[dkast@usc.edu](mailto:dkast@usc.edu)



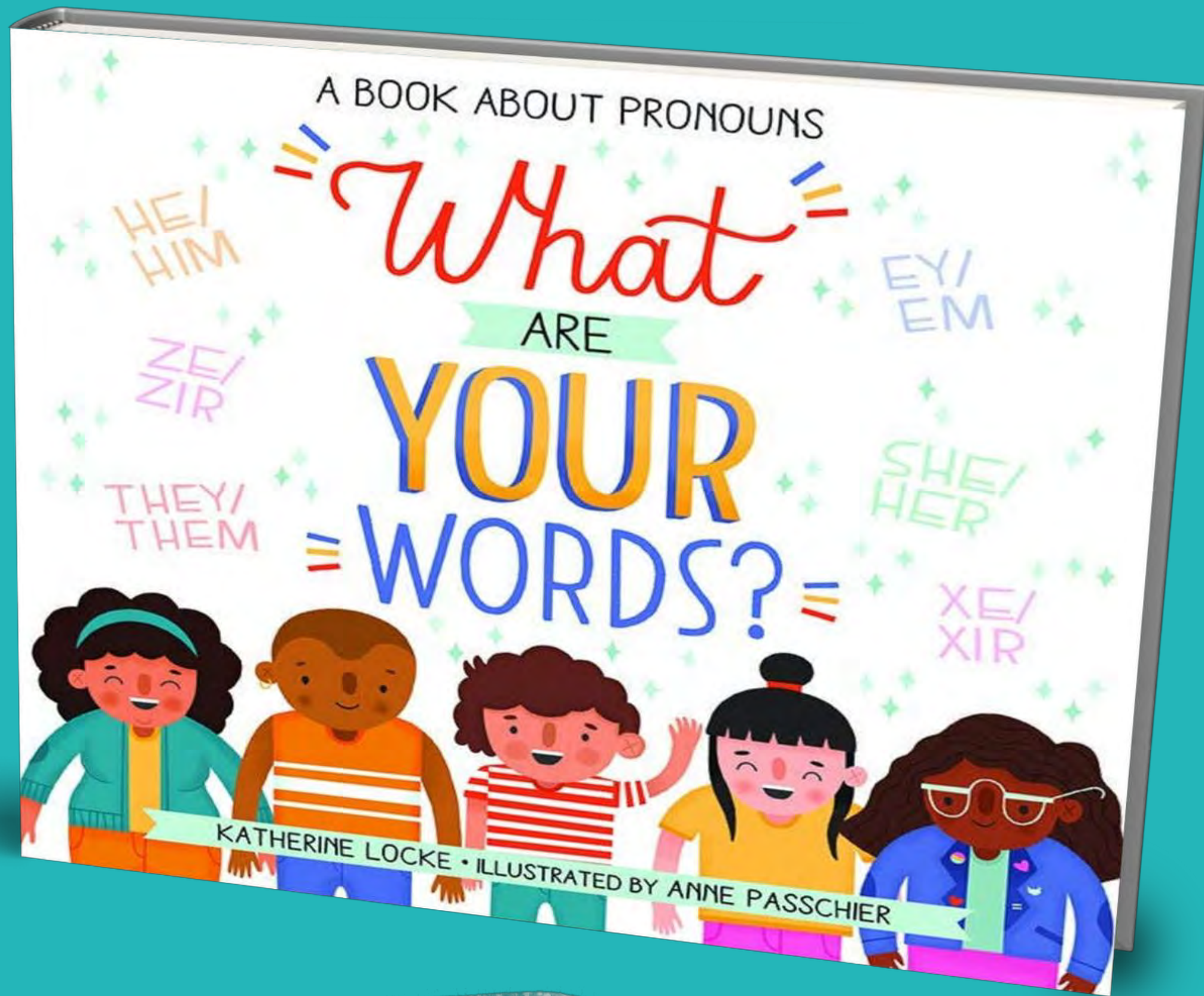
# Katherine Locke

[www.katherinelockebooks.com/](http://www.katherinelockebooks.com/)



National Girls  
Collaborative Project

*Breaking Stereotypes Through Children's Books*



she

ze/zir

they  
them

HE  
HIM

Katherine Locke

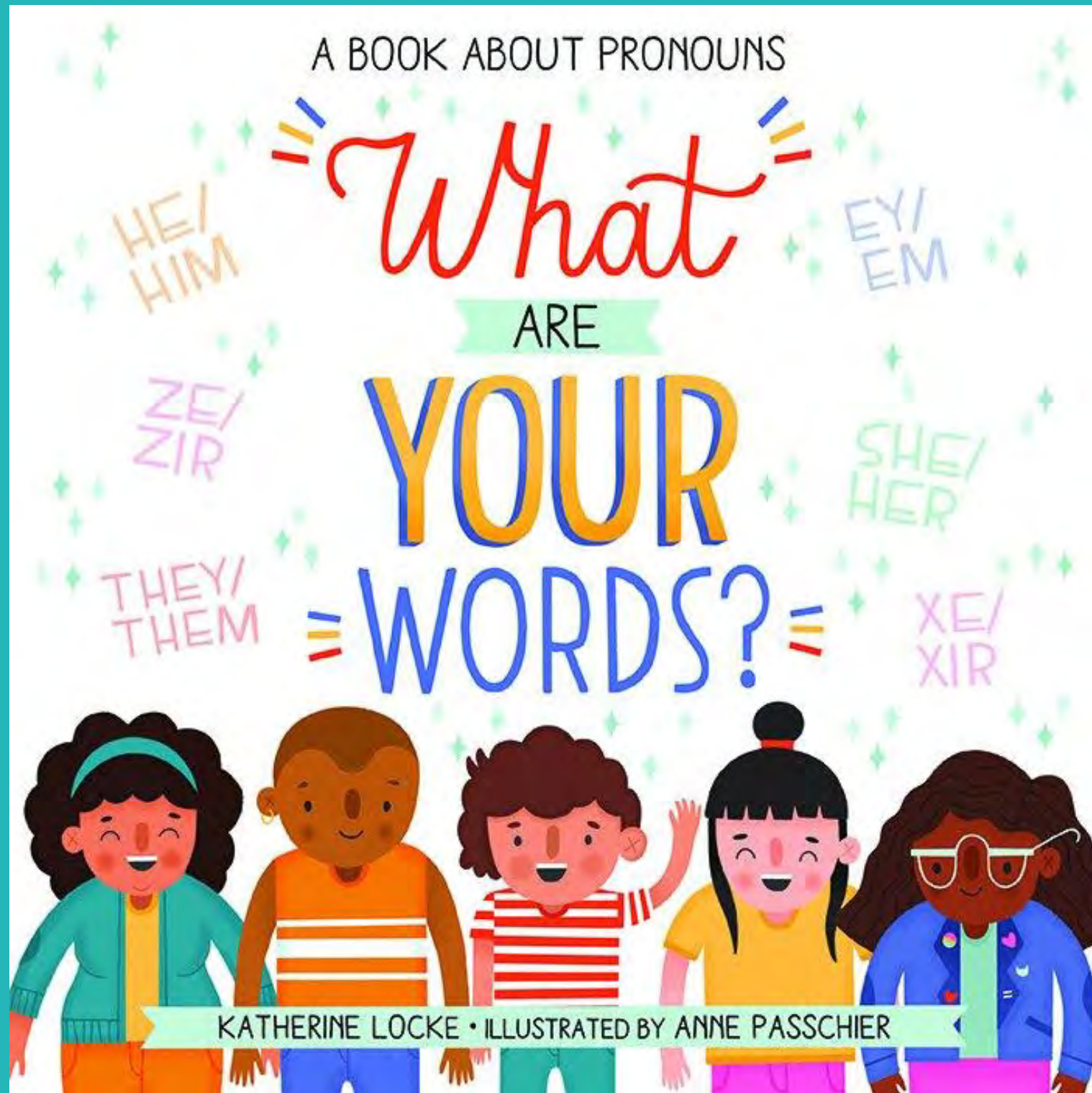
she/he/they

# About Me

- Philadelphia area native
- Award-winning and critically acclaimed author of over 15 books (I've lost count)
- Cat and dog and horse person, but my cats are not dog-cats
- Lifelong writer and reader



# What Are Your Words?



→ Picture Book for all ages, including adults

→ This book is about pronouns. You can't assume gender from pronouns

→ We all have pronouns. Pronouns are not reserved just for trans and nonbinary folk

→ Pronouns are just SOME of the words we use to describe ourselves.

# What Are Your Words?

Sometimes I know my words right away.



THOUGHTFUL! ATHLETIC!  
SILLY! SHE/HER



Sometimes I have to think about my words.

Sometimes I have to try my words out.

SLEEPY! CALM!  
HONEST! EY/EM



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY  
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS



my pronouns are

# Common Questions



What if I mess up someone's pronouns?

How do I use/read/share this book, if I'm uncomfortable?

Are kids ready for this?

What if I don't know how to pronounce neopronouns?

Why does Ari change pronouns?

I'm scared to bring this book into my school right now. Help!

# Resources

LGBTQReads.com

PEN America

Family Equality

CBC Books

NGCP

American Library Association

Local Libraries

Local independent booksellers

Human Rights Campaign

Pronouns.org

The Trevor Project



# Q&A

Last song listened to:  
I've been listening to Taylor Swift's  
Midnights on repeat

Picture Book Recs: Nigel and the Moon  
by Antwan Eady



Next Trip Planned: Iceland in just a few  
weeks!

My cats' names: Cora, Piglet, and Pilot

Favorite drink at a coffee shop: Chai  
Latte

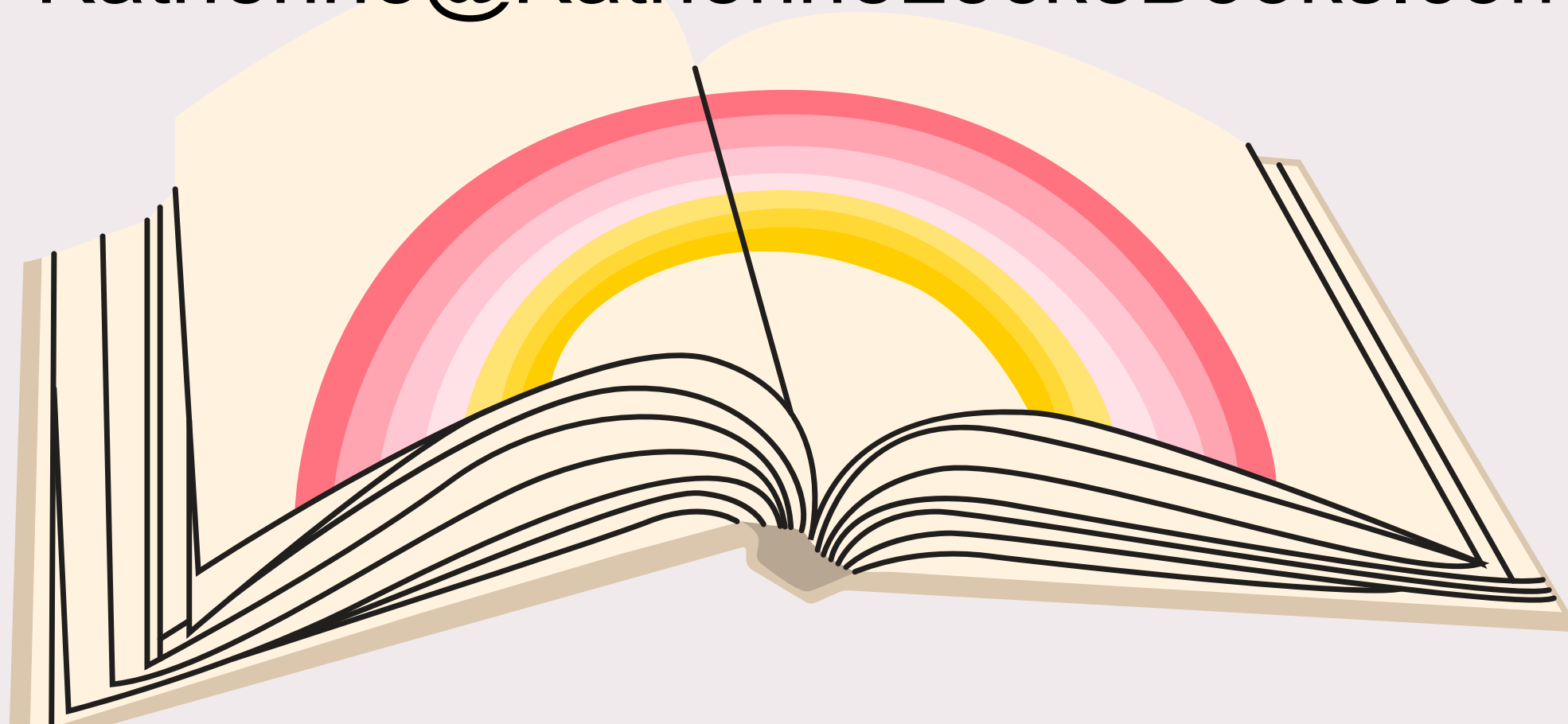
Recommendation for Books for Adults  
about Trans History/Personal Memoir  
Tomorrow Will be Different By Sarah  
McBride

Contact Me

[KatherineLockeBooks.com](http://KatherineLockeBooks.com)

@Bibliogato on Twitter and  
Instagram

[Katherine@KatherineLockeBooks.com](mailto:Katherine@KatherineLockeBooks.com)



# Q & A

We'll take questions from the chat and from people using the 'hand raise' function.



# Call to Action

Share in the Chat!

- What books or resources did the speakers introduce that you plan to use?
- Do you have additional book suggestions to help break stereotypes in STEM or in other ways? Share in the chat!



# Upcoming Event

[ngcproject.org/events-announcements](https://ngcproject.org/events-announcements)

- **Learn to Be an Ally to Girls and Women in STEM**
  - June 6, 2023
  - 12:30pm PT / 3:30pm ET



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Collaborative Project

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**20 YEARS** OF TRANSFORMING STEM

Learn more at [ngcproject.org](https://ngcproject.org)