

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**

Frida Kahlo



Written by M^a Isabel Sánchez Vegara
Illustrated by Gee Fan Eng

For readers aged 4+ | 9781847807700 | Hardback | £9.99

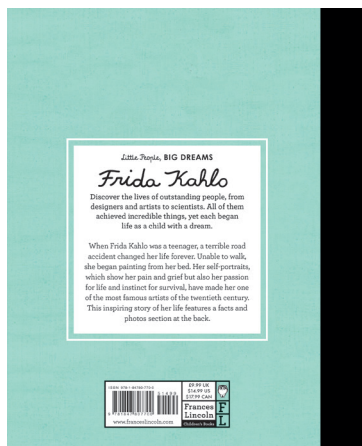
Lots of the activities and discussion topics in these teacher's notes are deliberately left open to encourage pupils to develop independent thinking around the book. This will help pupils build confidence in their ability to problem solve as individuals and also as part of a group.



The Front Cover

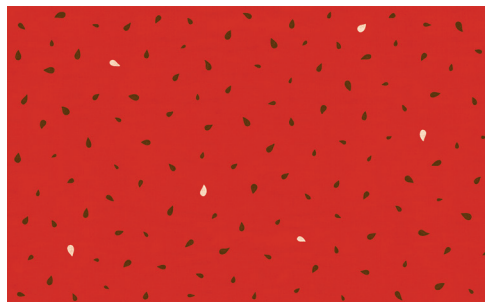
What features has the illustrator, Gee Fan Eng, focused on in her cover illustration?

Why do you think Frida Kahlo became so well-known?



The Blurb

How many new facts have you learned about Frida Kahlo, just by reading the blurb?



The Endpapers

Why do you think the illustrator chose this particular design for the end papers?



How does the illustrator suggest the country where Frida lived?

In what ways do you think Frida might be special?

Find three interesting things in the illustration and share these with your class. Do you all notice the same things?

Look in an atlas or on the internet to find out where Mexico is.

Which continent is it in?



What can you infer from the illustration about the school which Frida attends?

How does the artist show that Frida is different from the other girls?

How do you think Frida feels?



Why do you think the people in the illustration are arranged in this way?

How is Frida different?

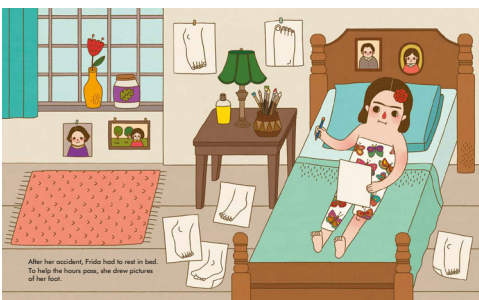
Why do you think she likes to dress differently?

What have we learned about Frida's character?



What do you think the author means by 'Life as she knew it changed forever'?

What do you notice in the illustration?



Draw a picture of your own foot.

What is the best way to achieve this?

What would you do if you had to recuperate in bed for a long time?

Why do you think Frida chose to draw?



How do you think you would cope if you were in pain?

Why do you think Frida chose to draw self-portraits, rather than other people, objects or landscapes?

Look at the painting in the illustration. What do you notice about the background and the clothes?

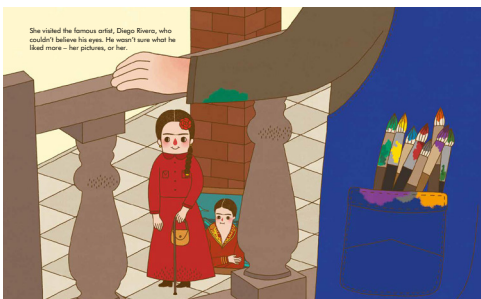
Try drawing a self-portrait using a mirror, using some of the techniques that the illustrator has used.



Why do you think Frida's art got better?

Can you think of anything that you have done that has 'got better'?

What do you notice in this illustration?



Find some paintings by Diego Rivera on the internet. quartokno.ws/2SUlz4H

What is your opinion of them?

Why do you think that the illustrator has drawn Diego so large and Frida so small?



In what ways do you think that Frida and Diego were so similar, and yet so different?

What do you think the author means by 'through their ups and downs'?

What is unusual about the wedding cake?



Why do you think people choose to paint?

What does Frida depict in her paintings?

Why do you think Frida might feel sad sometimes?

What do you think Frida is conveying in her picture of the two women?

quartokno.ws/2Trpueg



How does the illustrator convey that this picture is in New York City?

How do we know that Frida has created 'a great stir'?



What is particularly unusual about the exhibition?

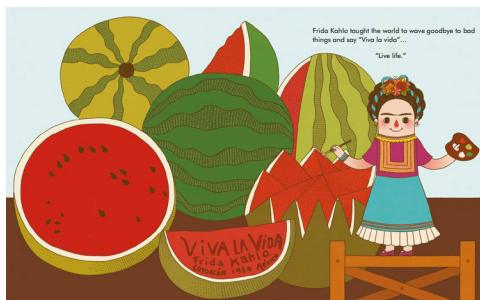
What do you notice about Frida's bed compared with earlier pictures of it?

What do you think the author means by 'heartache'?

Create your own picture of Frida Kahlo. You could use collage, paint, crayon, pastels or digital art.

Look at images of Frida Kahlo's work online. See if you can find the ones that appear in the illustrations in the book.

Which do you like best, and why?



What do you think about Frida's idea of waving 'goodbye to bad things and...' saying "'Viva la vida'"?

What sort of fruit is in the illustration?

quartokno.ws/2TpLW7q

Why do you think Frida Kahlo chose these fruits for her message?

What would you choose to paint, if you were sending this message?

Create your own art work to convey this message: 'Live life.'

Create a class poem to go with your art work. You could use the words: 'Live life. Viva la vida' as a refrain between a set of imperatives. Think about rhythm and alliteration and don't worry about making rhymes.

E.g.


Viva la vida
 Live life
 Sing songs
 Laugh out loud
 Right wrongs
 Play outside
 Sea the see
 Run and jump
 High and free
 Love life.
 Viva la vida.

Frida Kahlo created a puppet theatre. See if you can find a photo of it online or in a book in the library.


Arrange a class puppet festival:

- Working in small groups, think about puppet characters that you would like to make.
- Develop a play for them.
- Create your own puppet theatre and puppets. Decide how you will move the puppets: with magnets, strings or sticks.
- Make flyers to publicise your festival and write invitations.


FRIDA KAHLO
(Born 1907 - Died 1955)




1919



1929



1942-5



1944

Frida Kahlo was born in Coahuila, a small town outside of Mexico City. When she was six, she contracted polio, leaving one leg shorter than the other. As she grew older, she took part in leisure activities like riding a bike and playing sports, and even went to college and studied back for her for a family photograph. In 1929, Frida was in a bus crash that left her with a lot of painful injuries, including a broken backbone, the end of one of her legs, several broken ribs, and a broken neck. Instead of continuing her studies, she took up painting – mostly pictures of herself – from her bed.

Her husband, the famous Mexican artist Diego Rivera, was a great supporter of her artwork, and in 1938 Frida had her first solo exhibition in New York City. However, Frida only became famous internationally after her death. Her paintings are instantly recognizable because of her bright colors and symbols of Mexican culture, and have been sold for millions of pounds around the world. Thanks to her strong personality, fighting spirit and love of painting, Frida remains the accident that marked her life. She is an inspiration to many women today.

Which century did Frida Kahlo live in?

How long did she live?

Pick out all the different sentence starters in this piece of information text.

Why do you think the author ended the piece of writing with a short sentence?

Find out about symbols of Mexican culture and incorporate some of these into a picture of your own.

Do you think it was fortunate or unfortunate that Frida didn't become famous until after her death? Give reasons to support your opinions.

Why do you think some paintings sell for so much money?

Who is an inspiration to you? Why?

Be bold, be brave, dream BIG!

Discover inspirational lives from around the world.



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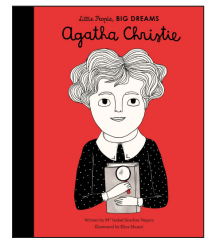
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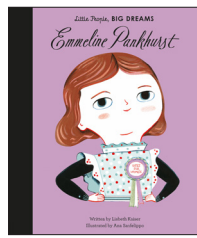
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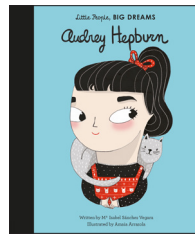
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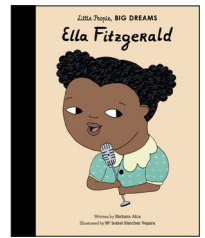
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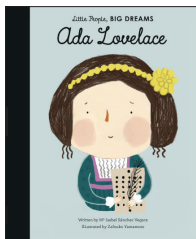
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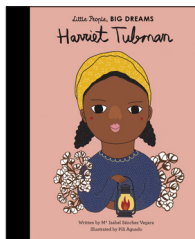
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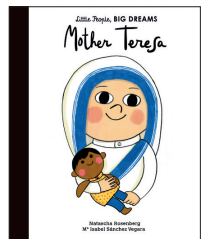
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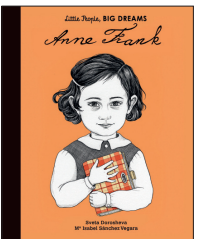
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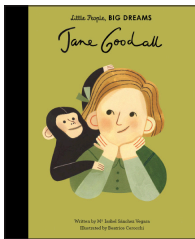
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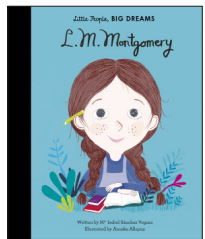
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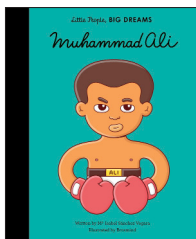
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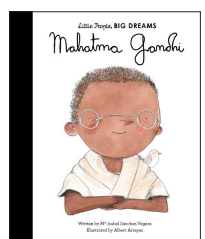
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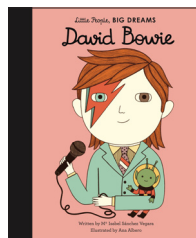
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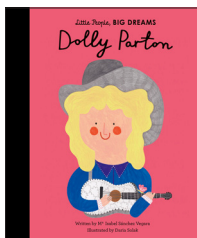
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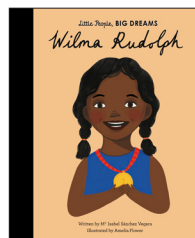
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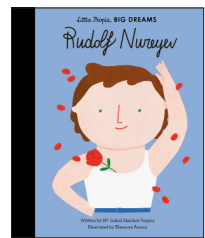
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