



A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR PAINTED DREAMS

This teacher's guide is designed to assist you in creating talking points and ideas for classroom activities in conjunction with school visits.



PAINTED DREAMS
by Karen Lynn Williams

THEMES IN THIS BOOK

- Creativity, Imagination

TiMarie, uses her creativity and imagination to make beautiful pictures. What kinds of things do you like to create? How can you use your imagination?

- Resourcefulness

TiMarie must solve many problems. She does not have paints. How does she solve this problem? She also does not have paper or canvas to paint on? What does she use instead? TiMarie's mother does not have a successful market business. How does TiMarie help her? Can you think of other ways TiMarie could solve her problems. Have you ever had to solve a problem? How did you do it? How did you feel? How do you think TiMarie feels?

- Multicultural Lifestyles

What kind of a house does TiMarie live in? What kind of clothes does she wear? What jobs do the people in the story have? What are TiMarie's chores? How are these things different from or the same as your life?

- Family

How many people are in TiMarie's family? What do they do? How do they work together? How is TiMarie's family the same as or different from your family? How do you help your family?

- Poverty

What are some things in the story that tell you TiMarie's family is poor? Do you think TiMarie is happy? Even though TiMarie's family does not have much money they have some special things they share and do. What are they?

- Dreams (Aspirations, Goals)

TiMarie has a dream. What does she do to help make her dream come true? What are your dreams or goals?



Painting on walls and buildings in Haiti.



A Haitian artist at work.



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SUBJECT AREAS IDEAS

- **Social Studies**
Haiti is the poorest country in the western Hemisphere. Find it on the map. What other country shares the same island? What is the island called? What is the climate like? How do people dress? What do they eat and what kinds of jobs do they do? What language do they speak?
- **Art**
Haiti has the most exhibited artists per capita of any country in the world. Most of the artists are self-taught. Find some samples of Haitian art in the library or on the internet. Make a mural on shelving paper the way TiMarie does on the market wall. Paint a picture of your dreams. Try using other things instead of a paintbrush to paint with: sticks, cotton balls, feathers, sponges.
- **Science**
Please see the teacher's guide for TAP-TAP.
- **Music**
Please see the teacher's guide for TAP-TAP.
- **Language arts**
Write or tell a story about a dream you have or a problem you have solved. Story telling is an important form of entertainment in Haiti. Ask your parents to tell you a story about your family or a made up story. Practice this story and tell it to the class.
- **History**
Haiti was once a colony of France. Most of the people who lived there were slaves from Africa. In 1791, led by Toussaint L'Ouverture, they overthrew the plantation owners in the only successful slave revolt in history. At one time Haiti was called the jewel of the Antilles but today it is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. What do you think happened? Look up the history of Haiti on the internet or in an encyclopedia or in the library.



An artist in Haiti sells his paintings.



Students in the US paint their dreams after a school visit from Karen.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Karen Williams is available to speak and share her stories on this and many of her other books. Please visit www.karenlynnwilliams.com for more information on the books and other information about Karen.