

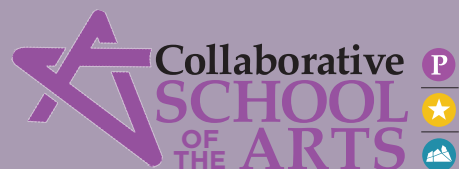
theREP★

STORY HOUR

Featuring
Barbara Howard

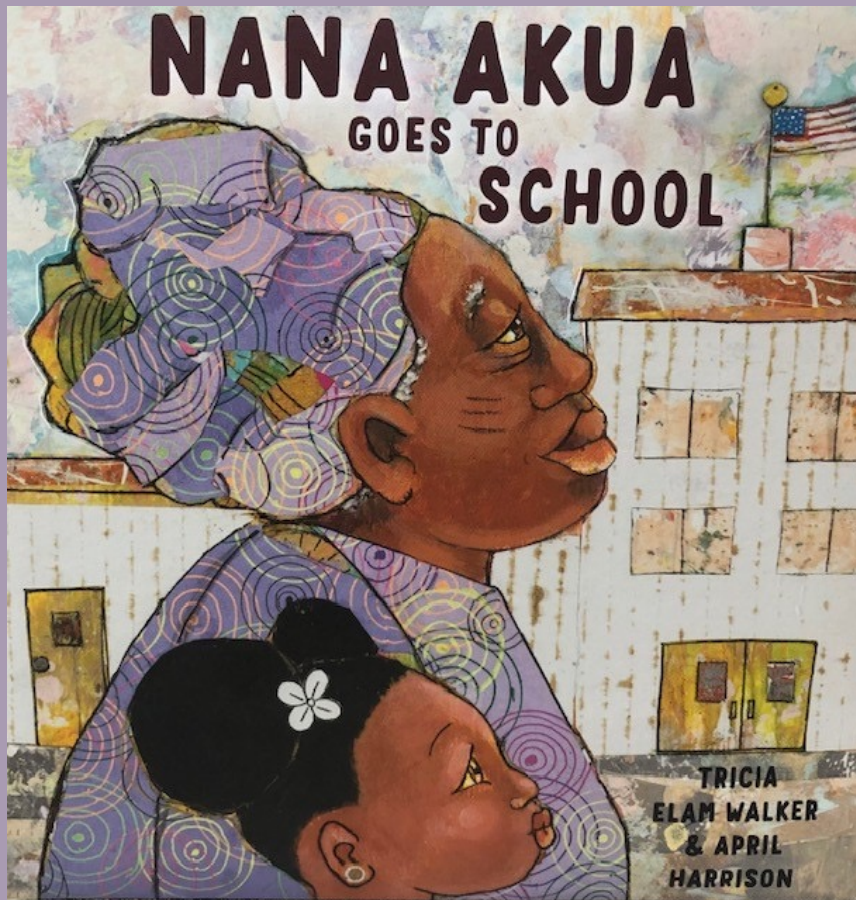


theREP★
neighbors
for neighbors



at theREP★

Story Hour: Season 2 with theREP Activity for Grades K-2



LEARNING STANDARD QUESTIONS:

Who are the characters in this book?

Answers → Nana Aku, Zura, Mr. Dawson, Alejo, Bisou, Theodore, Zura's Maame, Alejo's Abuelo, Bisou's Mimi, Lester's Grandparents, Peter and Inez, other students and grandparents

Who is (are) the main character(s) in the book?

Answer → Zura, Nana Aku

Why did the author write this story?

Possible Answers --> to teach about being different; to teach a tradition from Ghana Culture; to teach about traditions; to teach about acceptance; to teach about beauty; to teach about learning from one's elders ...

ACTIVITY (with connection to the story):

Students are asked to make a stick figure puppet of themselves and to then pick one of the Adinkra symbols to put on their puppet's cheeks – just like Nana Aku did for Zura's class. Then they can share which symbol they selected, and why they selected it, with the class – using their puppet to tell the class.

Puppets can also be used during – or after – the story hour reading, to act out moments within the story.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Construction paper in many colors, scissors, glue sticks, jumbo crafting sticks (or popsicle sticks), and the Adinkra Symbols and their Meanings Chart (taken directly from the book)

SHARE YOUR CREATION!

theREP would love students to share photos of (or short videos using) their puppets! They can be emailed to Associate Artistic Director, Margaret E. Hall, at mhall@capitalrep.org

ADINKRA SYMBOLS AND THEIR MEANINGS



dwennimmen
(jin-NEE-meh):
ram's horns;
means "strength and wisdom"



eban
(eh-BAN):
fence;
means "safety and security"



gye nyame
(JEH N-gah-meh):
most popular Adinkra symbol;
means "faith in and devotion to a supreme being"



hwemudua
(sheweb-moo-DOO-AH):
measuring stick;
means "high quality and excellence"



mate masie
(mah-tee mah-SEE-AH):
what I hear, I keep;
means "wisdom and knowledge"



mpuannum
(um-poo-AH-num):
five tufts of hair;
means "hairstyle of joy
[worn by priestesses] and loyalty"



pempamsie
(pim-PAHM-see-ah):
links of a chain;
means "fearlessness"



sankofa
(san-KO-fah):
bird looking backward;
means "learn from the past
to build the future"



sepow
(say-POW):
dagger;
means "justice and the law"



wawa aba
(wah-wah AH-bah):
seed of a wawa tree;
means "toughness
and perseverance"



aban
(ah-BAHN):
two-story house;
means "authority and power"



adinkrahene
(ah-DIN-krah-heh-nee):
chief of Adinkra symbols;
means "leadership and greatness"



adwo
(AH-jo):
calmness;
means "peace and quiet"



ahoden (ah-ho-DEN):
energy;
means "energy and strength"



akoko nan
(AH-ko-ko NINE):
hen's leg;
means "patience and discipline"



akoma
(ah-ko-MAH):
heart;
means "love and patience"



bese saka
(beh-see SAH-kah):
bunch of cola nuts;
means "power and unity."



boafo ye na
(bo-AH-foo yay NAH):
support;
means "willing helper"



denkyem (den-CHEM):
crocodile;
means "cleverness"



duafe
(doo-AH-fah):
wooden comb;
means "beauty and care"