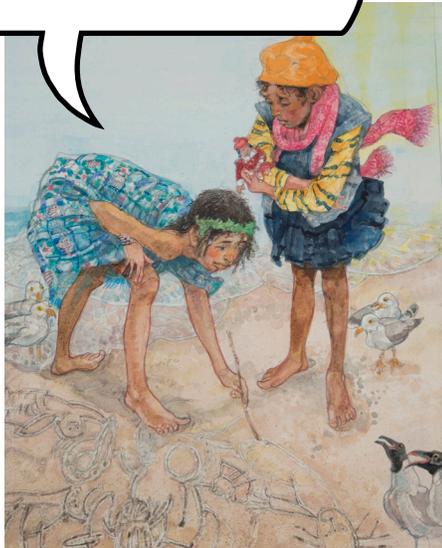


### WHAT ARE WE SAYING?

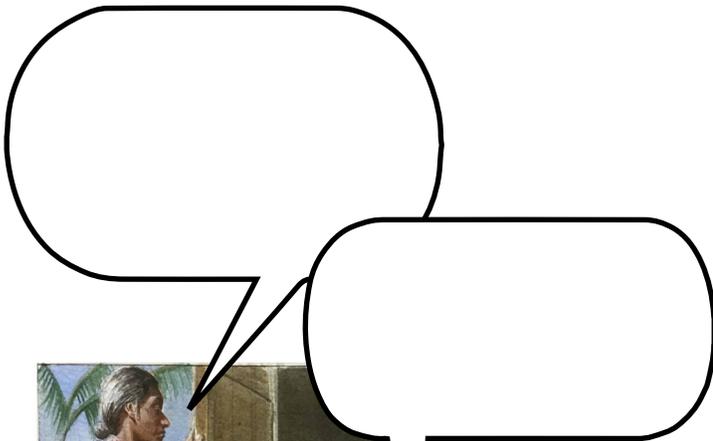
Dialogue and conversation are an important part of a picture book. Find these illustrations in the galleries (and/or read the books). In each of the thought bubbles write what you think the character is saying. Use the back of this sheet to draw your own characters and write their conversation.



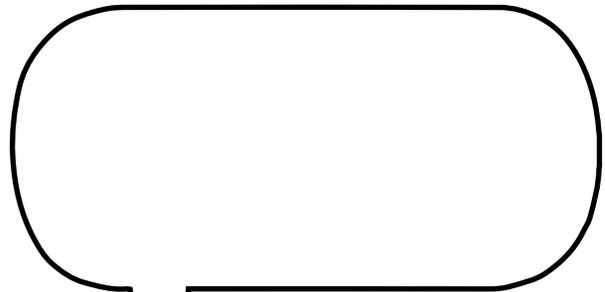
Jerry Pinkney from *The Little Mermaid* (detail)



Jerry Pinkney from *God Bless the Child*

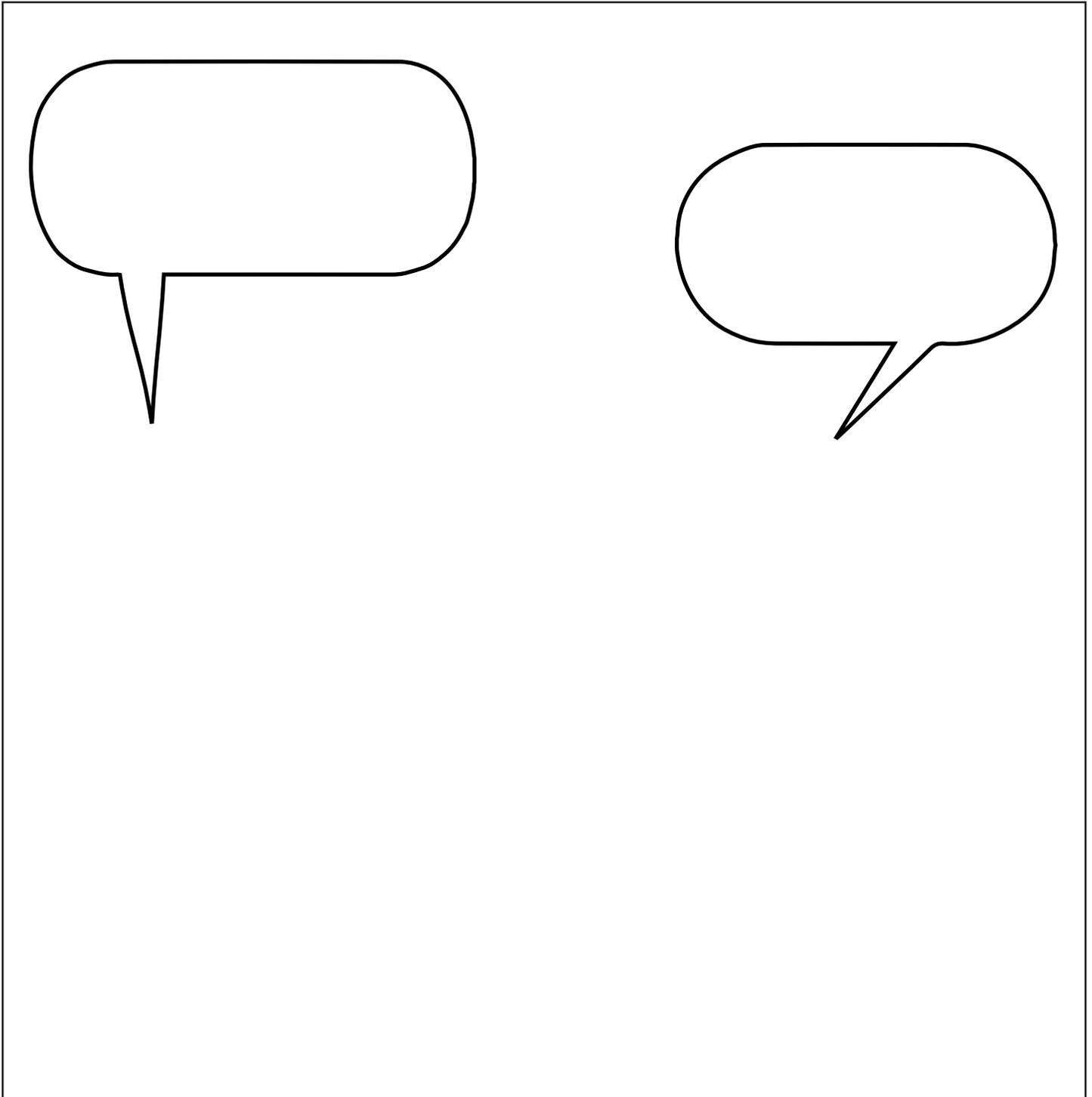


Eric Velasquez from *She Was the First: The Trailblazing Life of Shirley Chisholm*



Shadra Strickland from *Bird*

**Draw your own characters and write their conversation.**



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**Image credits:**

Jerry Pinkney, "Zion Gasped. I Was Right—You Were A Mermaid!" (detail) (pp. 29-30) from *The Little Mermaid* by Jerry Pinkney. Watercolor and graphite on cold-pressed paper, 15 x 21 1/2 in. (38.1 x 54.6 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2020 Jerry Pinkney. Photograph by Peter Jacobs.

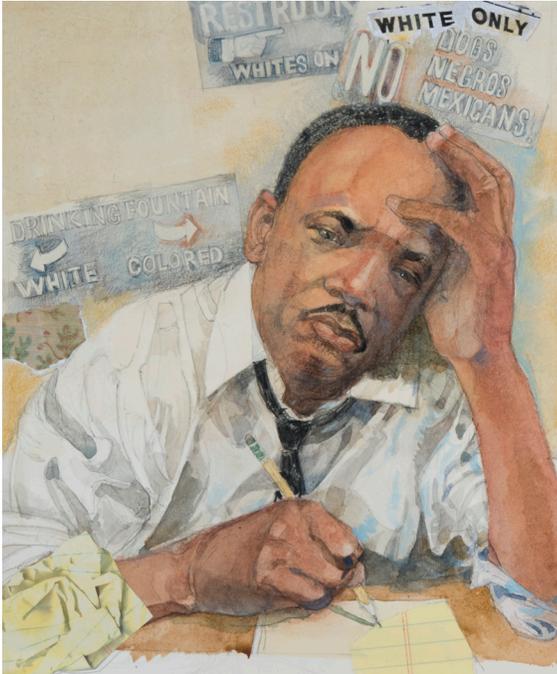
Eric Velasquez, "Island life was nothing like city living." (detail) (p. 10) from *She was the First! The Trailblazing Life of Shirley Chisholm*, by Kathryn Russell-Brown, Lee & Low Books, 2020. Watercolor, 15 x 11 in. (15 x 27.9 cm), Courtesy of the artist, © Eric Velasquez.

Jerry Pinkney, *Classroom Scene*, (p. 34) from *God Bless the Child* by Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr. Watercolor and graphite on watercolor paper, 14 7/16 x 12 7/16 in. (36.8 x 31.7 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2004 Jerry Pinkney. Photograph by Peter Jacobs.

Shadra Strickland, "I like talking to Uncle Son" (pp. 9-10) from *Bird*, by Zetta Elliot, Lee & Low Books, Inc., 2008. Watercolor, gouache, charcoal, and pen, 10 7/8 x 16 5/8 in. (27.5 x 42.1 cm), Courtesy of the artist, © Shadra Strickland.

### WHAT ARE WE FEELING?

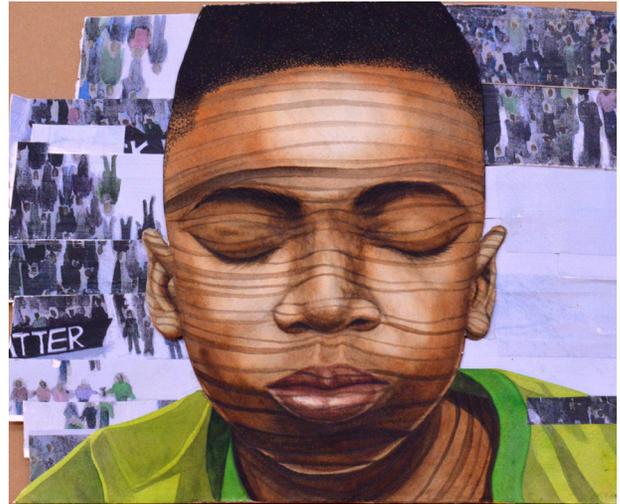
Feelings and emotions help us understand the characters in a picture book story. In the illustrations on view in the galleries you can see many people of different backgrounds expressing a variety of emotions. Find these illustrations (and/or read the books). Write down the emotions each character is feeling. Use the back of this sheet to draw your own characters and write down what they are feeling. Some suggestions: thoughtful, surprised, nervous, angry, joyful, sad, anxious, bored, excited, scared....



Jerry Pinkney from *A Place to Land: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Speech that Inspired a Nation* (detail)

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Bryan Collier from *All Because You Matter* (detail)

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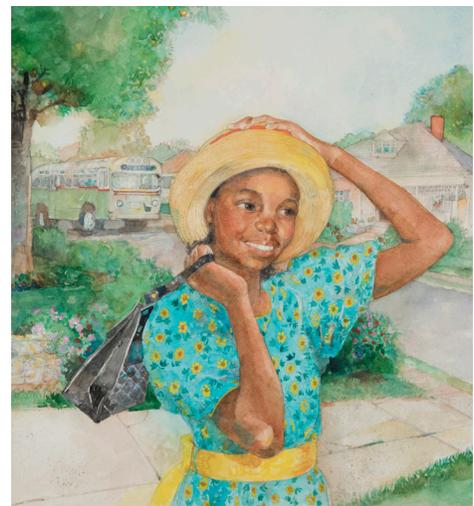
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Gordon C. James from *Just Like Jesse Owens*

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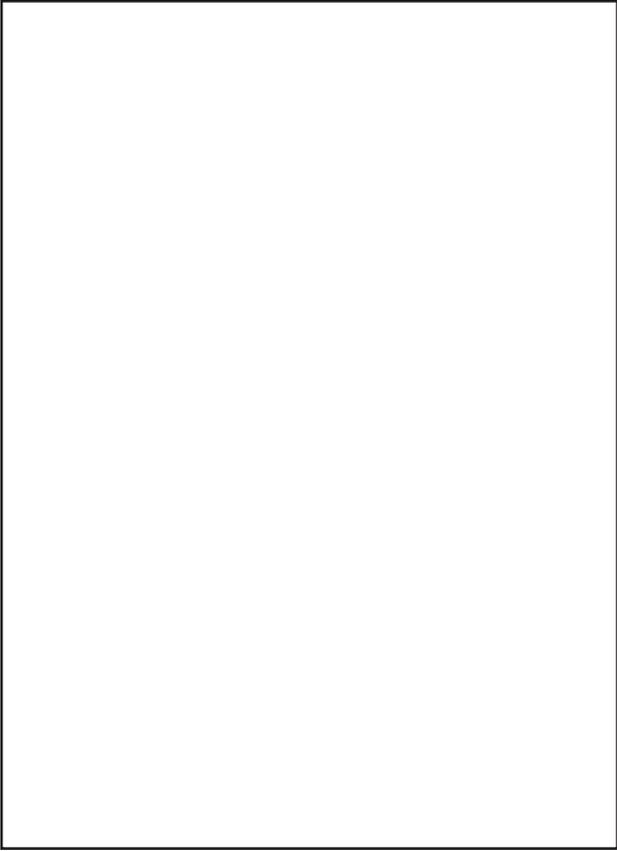


Jerry Pinkney from *Goin' Someplace Special* (detail)

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**Draw your own characters and write what they are feeling.**



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Image credits:

Jerry Pinkney, "2:30 P.M... APPROACHING 3:30 P.M.," (detail) (pp. 20-21) from *A Place to Land: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Speech that Inspired a Nation* by Barry Wittenstein. Watercolor, collage, and graphite on watercolor paper, 14 1/8 x 21 7/8 in. (35.9 x 55.6 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2019 Jerry Pinkney. Photograph by Peter Jacobs.

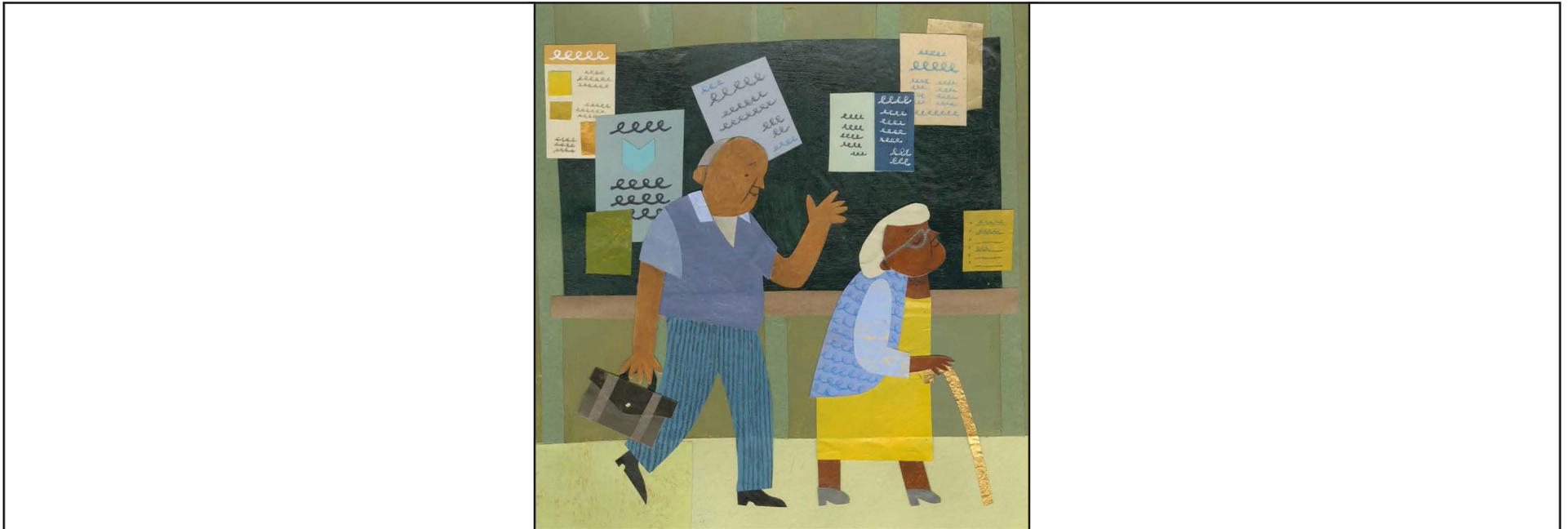
Gordon C. James, "Cheering for Jesse" (pp. 30-31) from *Just Like Jesse Owens*, by Andrew Young and Paula Young Shelton, Orchard Books, 2022. Chalk pastels on Mi-Teintes pastel board, 20 x 32 in. (50.8 x 81.3 cm), Courtesy of the artist, © Gordon C. James.

Bryan Collier, "Whispered Prayers" (detail) (cover, pp. 25-26) from *All Because You Matter*, by Tami Charles, Orchard Books, 2020. Collage and Winsor & Newton watercolor paint on Arches watercolor paper, 15 x 25 in. (38.1 x 63.5 cm), Courtesy of the artist and R. Michelson Galleries, © Bryan Collier.

Jerry Pinkney, "Goin' Someplace Special," (detail) cover from *Goin' Someplace Special* by Patricia C. McKissack. Watercolor and graphite on watercolor paper, 15 1/8 x 21 5/8 in. (38.4 x 54.9 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2001 Jerry Pinkney. Photograph by Peter Jacobs.

### WHAT IS THE PLOT OF THE STORY?

The job of the picture book illustrator is to create pictures that move the story forward. Find Oge Mora's illustrations from *The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read* in the galleries (and/or read the book). Mary Walker was a woman with a fierce determination to learn to read which she did when she was 116 years old. Imagine what happened before and after this illustration and draw it in the spaces below. Use the back of this sheet to draw your own sequence about a character who is very determined to accomplish something despite many obstacles.



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Mary had heard about a new reading class held in her building. She pursed her lips. "No more waiting," she decided. "Time to learn."

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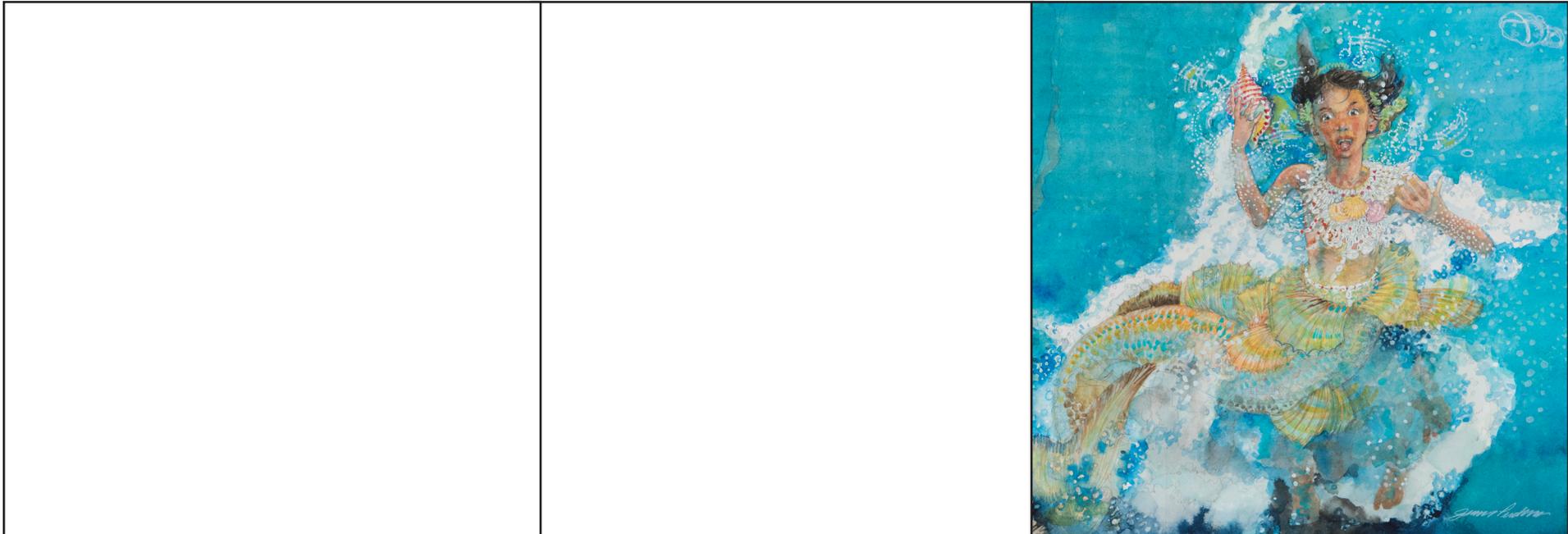
Oge Mora, "Mary had heard about a new reading class" (detail) (pp. 23-24) from *The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read*, by Rita Lorraine Hubbard, Anne Schwartz Books, 2020. Acrylic paint, china marker, colored pencil, patterned paper, and book clippings, 9 x 18 in. (22.9 x 45.7 cm), Courtesy of the artist, © Oge Mora.

**Draw your own 3 part sequence about a character who is very determined to accomplish something important despite many obstacles.**

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**WHAT IS THE PLOT OF THE STORY?**

The job of the picture book illustrator is to create pictures that move the story forward. Find Jerry Pinkney's illustrations from *The Little Mermaid* in the galleries (and/or read the book). Jerry Pinkney re-told this classic tale with the main character as an African-American mermaid. Use your imagination to draw two sequences showing what happened before this illustration. Use the back of this sheet to draw your own sequence of a favorite tale told in your own way.




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The spell was broken. Melody had found her true voice....She opened her mouth, and such a beautiful song came out that the coral sprang back to life and the sea snakes slithered far away.

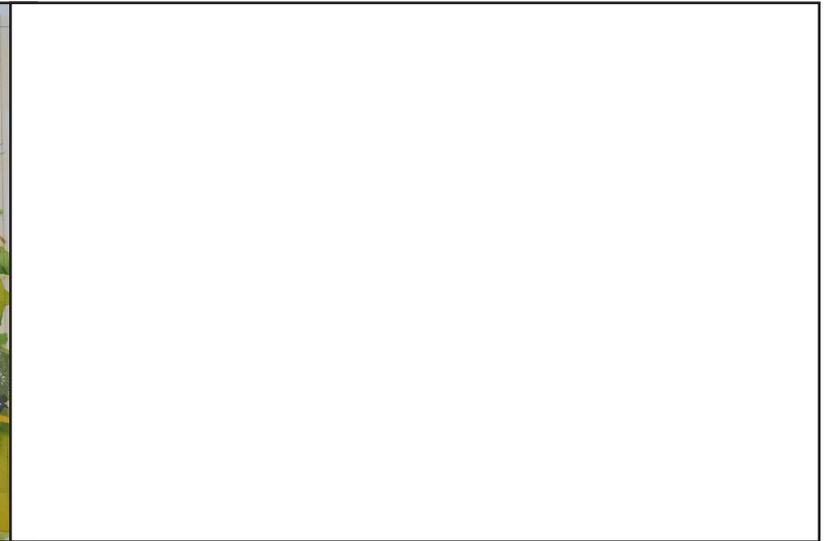
Jerry Pinkney, "The Spell was Broken," (detail) (pp. 39-40) from *The Little Mermaid* by Jerry Pinkney. Watercolor and graphite on cold-pressed paper, 15 1/8 x 22 1/2 in. (38.4 x 57.2 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2020 Jerry Pinkney. Photograph by Peter Jacobs.

**Draw your own 3 part sequence of a favorite tale told in your own way.**

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### WHAT IS THE PLOT OF THE STORY?

The job of the picture book illustrator is to create pictures that move the story forward. Find James E. Ransome's illustrations from *On Her Wings: The Story of Toni Morrison* in the galleries (and/or read the book). This book tells the true story of the writer Toni Morrison from her childhood through her life. This illustration for the first page of the book introduces her family. What might happen next in this story? Draw your ideas below. Use the back of this sheet to draw your own sequence about a famous or historical figure you admire.



When Toni Morrison was born, her parents first called her Chloe Ardelia Wofford. Chloe had three siblings. Lois was first. Chloe came eighteen months later. The girls were always very close. They had two younger brothers, George and Raymond.

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Long before Chloe became a reader or writer, she was a listener.

**Draw your own sequence about a famous or historical figure you admire.  
Create the first page of your story in the left box.**

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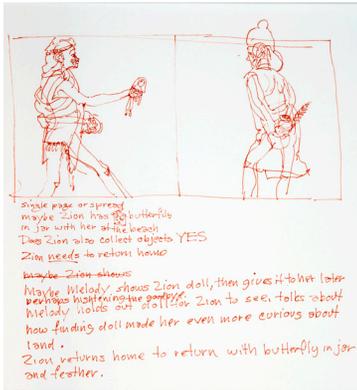
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### STORYBOARD YOUR BOOK

Authors and illustrators use thumbnail sketches (small, quick drawings) and storyboards to organize their ideas into a book. Find this sketch/storyboard that Jerry Pinkney did for *The Little Mermaid* and compare it to the final spread in the book. Use the boxes below and on the back to sketch out your ideas for your own picture book. Each panel should move the story along. Use the blank mini book and turn your ideas into a book. Use the DRAWING, WATERCOLOR, and COLLAGE boxes as materials for your book artwork.



Jerry Pinkney, Drawing inscribed "single page or spread...Zion needs to return home." study for *The Little Mermaid* by Jerry Pinkney. Pen on paper, 12 x 9 in. (30.5 x 22.9 cm), Courtesy of the Estate of Jerry Pinkney, © 2020 Jerry Pinkney.

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**Book Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**6.**

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