

Financial Literacy Guide for grades K-6

(can also be used in conjunction with the *Neema K-6 CCSS-Aligned Curriculum Guide*)

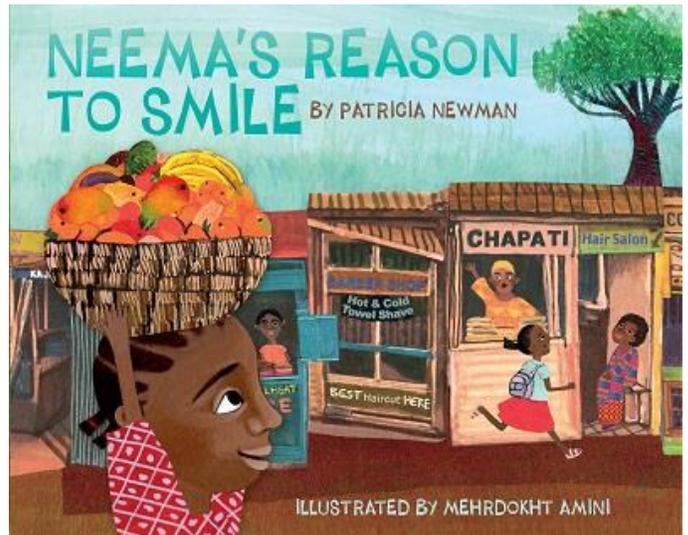
Neema's Reason to Smile by Patricia Newman and Mehrdokht Amini

This text pairs well with units of study that examine the following:

- Social Emotional Learning – global citizenship, character education
- Social Studies – geography, cultural comparisons, comparisons of schools
- Literacy - comprehension, writing, literary devices
- Financial Literacy – value of money, budgeting, international currency
- Genre - Informational

Curriculum Designer:

Donna Rosenblum, Teacher Librarian and Executive Director of Reason2Smile



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About the Author

Patricia Newman's award-winning books show kids how their actions can ripple around the world. She is the author of Robert F. Sibert Honor Book *Sea Otter Heroes: The Predators That Saved an Ecosystem*; as well as NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book *Eavesdropping on Elephants: How Listening Helps Conservation*; *Zoo Scientists to the Rescue*, a Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Book; Green Earth Book Award winner, *Plastic, Ahoy! Investigating the Great Pacific Garbage Patch*; Booklist Editor's Choice title *Ebola: Fears and Facts*; and *Neema's Reason to Smile*, winner of a Parents' Choice Award. Newman hopes to empower kids to think about the adults they'd like to become. Her author visits are described as "phenomenal," "passionate," and "inspirational."

For more information, visit her website at www.patriciamnewman.com or email her at newmanbooks@live.com.

About the Illustrator

Mehrdokht Amini was born Iran and is currently living in England. Her book *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns*, written by Hena Khan, was selected for the 2013 Association for Library Service to Children notable children's booklist. In 2016, her book *Chicken in the Kitchen* won Best Book at the Children's Africana Book Awards as was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal.

For more information, visit her website at www.myart2c.com or email her at mehrdokht1976@yahoo.com.

Book Summary

"A wonderful story that captures the dreams and hopes of a young Kenyan girl wanting to be more!"

Eric Walters, author and founder of Creation of Hope, an orphanage in the Mbooni Region in Kenya

Every day Neema balances a heavy basket of fruit on her head and traces the dusty path to town that unwinds like a cheetah's tail. She wants to go to school, but Mama cannot afford the uniform and supplies. Neema saves her money and dreams big dreams, until one day hope skips down the street wearing a red skirt and a white shirt.

"Lyrical and lovely, Neema's Reason to Smile reminds us that education is the greatest gift we can give a child, and that with enough love and determination, dreams sometimes do come true. Moving, important, and inspiring."

Newbery Medalist Katherine Applegate

Lesson Plan: Math + Words = Word Problems

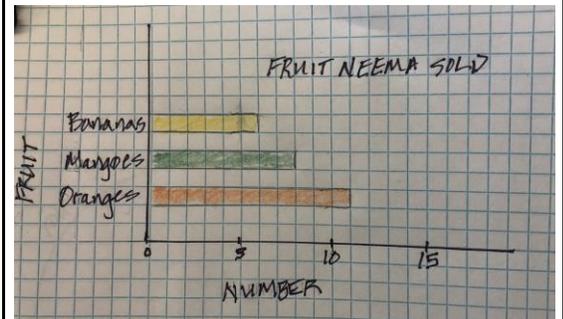
- Neema walks to town with a heavy basket of fruit on her head. Along the way, she sells 6 bananas, 8 mangoes, 11 oranges, and gave 1 orange to the beggar.
 - How many pieces of fruit did she sell?
 - Neema charges 15¢ for bananas, 40¢ for mangoes, and 20¢ for oranges. How much money did she make in cents? How much money in dollars and cents?
 - Neema lives in Kenya which uses the Kenyan shilling (KSh) for its money system. If there are 100 KSh to the US dollar (\$), how many KSh does Neema make?
 - Make a bar graph to show how many pieces of each kind of fruit Neema sold. (Be sure to title your graph and label the parts.)
- If the corn man sells 50 ears of grilled corn every day and sells each ear for 30¢, how long will it take him to make \$100?
- The water man carries two 20-liter (L) drums of water on his cart.
 - If he sells his water in 250 milliliter (mL) servings, how many servings can he carry on his cart?
 - If he sells each 250 mL serving of water for \$.50, how much money will he make if sells all the water on his cart? Give your answer in US dollars and Kenyan shillings.
- Make up your own word problem about Neema's story. Trade with a partner. Your partner will solve your problem and you will solve your partner's problem.

CCSS Anchor Standards

MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP6: Attend to precision.



Lesson Plan: Math + Money = Koins for Kenya

Students like Neema at Jambo Jipya School often do not have items in their homes that we think are essential.

In order to fully understand how many non-essential items we own, use the chart on the next page to count and record the number of items in your home.

Create a bar graph from the items in your chart.

Combine data from the whole class and create a new graph.

As a possible fundraising exercise, convert the number of items in each category into a monetary amount of your choice. For instance, each sink is worth \$.25 and each car is worth \$1.00. Donate the amount you calculated to [Jambo Jipya School \(at the Reason2Smile website\)](#).

CCSS Anchor Standards

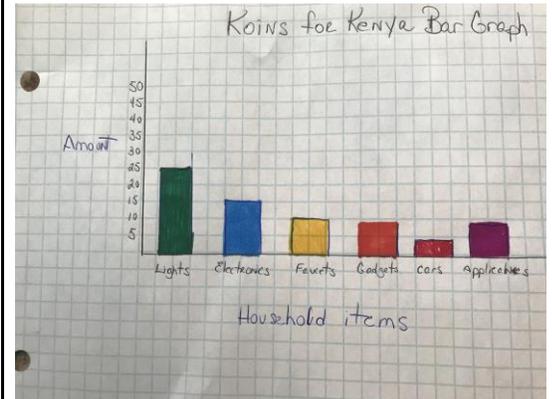
MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP4: Model with mathematics.

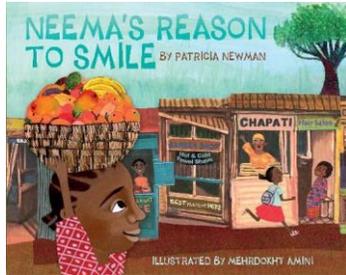
MP5: Use appropriate tools strategically.

MP6: Attend to precision.



Name _____

Date _____



_____ 's Reason to Smile

How many do I have at home?

ITEM	AMOUNT IN HOME	MONETARY AMOUNT
Light fixtures / outlets	_____	_____ pennies
Electronics – televisions, (cable), tablets, phones, computers, speakers, gaming systems (Xbox, Wii, PlayStation)	_____	_____ dimes
Faucets/sinks & toilets	_____	_____ quarters
Gadgets – blender, electric can opener, mix master or food processor, coffee maker, toaster, iron	_____	_____ nickels
Appliances – stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, dish washer, vacuum cleaner, microwave	_____	_____ dimes
Cars/other vehicles	_____	_____ dollar

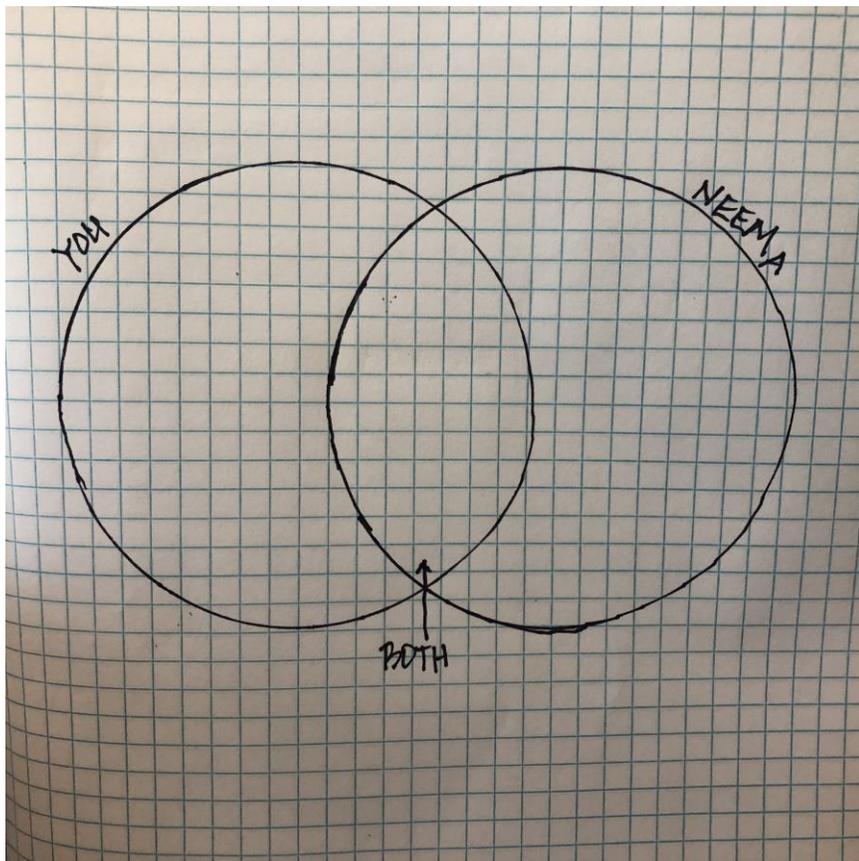
Lesson Plan: Compare + Contrast = Venn Diagram

Compare and Contrast

Ask students to work in groups or individually to compare and contrast Neema's school to their school. How are the schools the same? How are they different?

Have them complete the following graphic organizer using text-based evidence.

After students complete the graphic organizer, ask them to create a Venn Diagram. Use the following model below.



CCSS Anchor Standards

R.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

R.5 Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

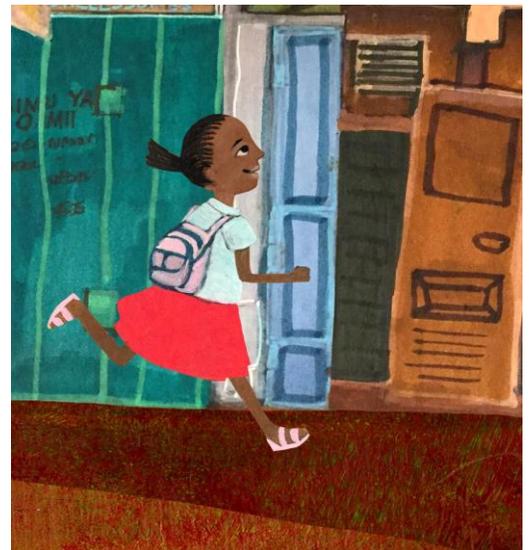
R.9 Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP4: Model with mathematics.

MP5: Use appropriate tools strategically.



Name _____

Date _____

In each box. write one way your school and Neema's school are the same.



List the ways your school and Neema's school are different.

My school

Neema's school



Lesson Plan: Math + Money + = Tuition

The cost of an elementary child's tuition at the Jambo Jipya School is \$300.00 US dollars.

Challenge students to support one child for one year with a math fundraiser.

Reason2Smile sells latex free bracelets in eight different colors. The colors are black, blue, red, green, yellow, pink, orange and purple. The bracelets were designed by Graphic Artist Nip Rodgers and represent the concept of community. We are all connected in the circle of life and what effects one, affects us all.

Planning

- Contact Donna Rosenblum at info@reason2smile.org to order bracelets for your fundraiser.
- Most schools sell the bracelets for \$2.00 each, but what if you charged more? How much more?
- How many bracelets need to be sold to reach \$300.00 at \$2.00 apiece? At a higher cost?
- If all eight bracelet colors were sold equally, how many of each color would be sold?
- If each student chooses their top three favorite colors to sell, how many of each would need to be sold to reach one child's tuition for a year?

Execution

- Make a class bar graph of the top three color choices for each student.
- If each student was able to reach the \$300.00, how many bracelets would be sold by the whole class?
- If you had to do this project again, what would you do differently?

CCSS Anchor Standards

MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

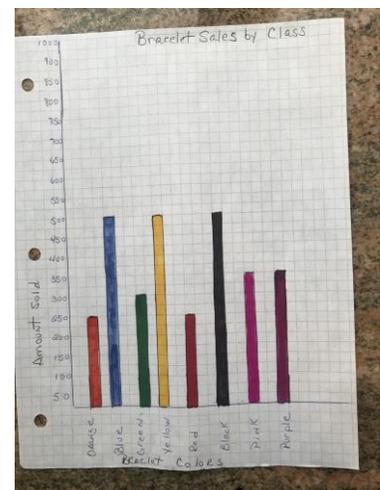
MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MP3: Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

MP4: Model with mathematics.

MP5: Use appropriate tools strategically.

MP6: Attend to precision.



About the Curriculum Designer:

Donna Rosenblum has been an educator for over 30 years – first as a high school social studies teacher and then as a school librarian. She is recently retired as the Supervisor of the School Library System for Nassau BOCES. Donna is passionate about children and education and became a member of the Reason2Smile's board in 2011 and Executive Director in 2015.