

Words on the World

a JBW Newsletter

Welcome to *Words on the World: A JBW Newsletter* where I will capture a few of my thoughts about my passions, specifically referring to the realms of writing, children's literature, diversity, literacy, education, early childhood and brain development, and more!

I will also use this newsletter to share about new books and projects I am working on, as well as to share some updates about me as an author, educator, and advocate!

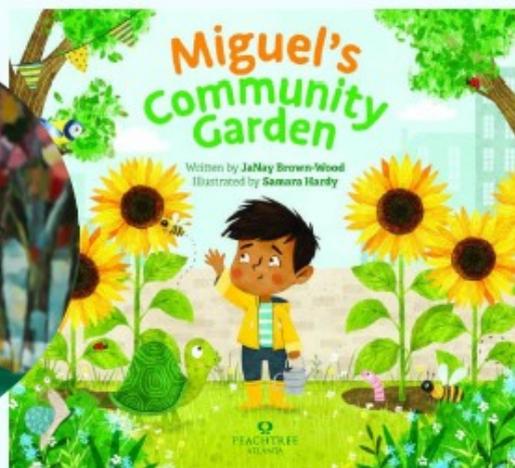
Thank you again for joining me!

**COME JOIN ME FOR A COMMUNITY
EVENT! MAY 14 IN SACRAMENTO!**

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Author Event with

JANAY BROWN-WOOD



READING, SIGNING, & GARDEN TOUR

MAY 14

10:00AM - 12:00PM

**SOJOURNER TRUTH PARK
COMMUNITY GARDEN**

**7365 GLORIA DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA**

Join me for this fun, family outdoor event! There will be a book reading, book sale and signing, community garden tour, AND a raffle for some fun prizes (including a MIGUEL'S COMMUNITY GARDEN apron).

All ages are welcome. **BRING A CHAIR!**

Hope to see you there!

Some Words on...Spring

Spring is in the air!

Have you stepped outside lately and taken in the beauty of nature? I mean it. Just step outside your home or look out the window and take in the natural world around you.

I try to do this as often as I can because I came to realize nature inspires me so deeply. The natural colors that burst from flora, fauna, sky, water. Tuning your senses in with nature can be instrumental in helping to inspire poem and story.

Try this: Have you ever just listened to the wings of a bee as it buzzes from flower to flower. What does it truly sound like? How would you *spell* that sound? Are there any emotions tied to that sound for you? What about the *thwacking* of a woodpecker? Or what about the *whooshing* of the wind. What does it smell like, taste like, feel like on your skin?

I challenge you to use the springing natural world around you to see if it can inspire something in you. Maybe the warmth of the sun inspires you to get out and walk around your neighborhood. Maybe the sparkle of night sky's constellations compel you to draw or do something else creative.

Use spring as your impetus and go out and...smell the roses. Here are some from my garden to get you going.



JBW in the Podcast-o-Sphere

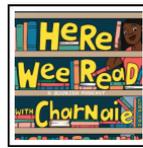
A Handful of JBW Interviews

Check out a few podcast interviews I've been featured in across the last couple of months. I always enjoy a chance to discuss child development, children's books, and the importance of diversity.



Dream Gardens with Jody Lee Mott

Dream Gardens children's books podcast I interviewed author JaNay Brown-Wood about the picture book [A Story About Afiya](#), written by James Berry and illustrated by Anna Cunha



Here Wee Read with Charnaie Gordon

JaNay Brown-Wood, PhD is an author, educator, literary advocate, and mother who is committed to nurturing the next generation of readers by writing stories with more diversity and representation.



The Guest Book

Author of "Where in the Garden" Series JaNay Brown-Wood in conversation with Em Shipman, Executive Director of KidsGardening



The Everything ECE Podcast

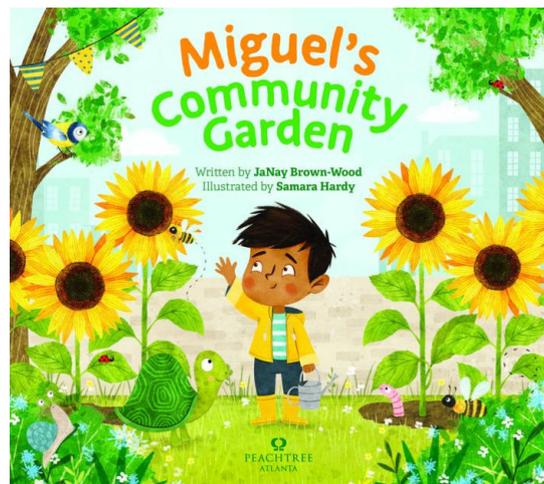
Carla interviews Dr. JaNay Brown-Wood whose education and experience have led her to be an award-winning children's author, poet, educator, and scholar.

Look What's NEW

MIGUEL'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

Miguel searches for sunflowers to take to his community garden party in this vibrant, diverse exploration of gardening and healthy eating. From the *Where in the Garden?* series.

Miguel is throwing a party at his community garden for all of his friends, and he needs help searching for sunflowers to complete the celebration. What do we know about sunflowers? They're tall with petals and leaves—and, hold on, is that a sunflower? No, that's an artichoke. Where, oh, where could those sunflowers be? Can you help Miguel find them in time for his party?



The second title in JaNay Brown-Wood and Samara Hardy's *Where in the Garden?* series stars an adorable young Latino exploring his garden while comparing, contrasting, and hunting for sunflowers among a multitude of warm-weather fruits and vegetables like apricots, artichokes, asparagus, mushrooms, spinach, and more.

Toddlers and preschoolers will delight as they discover the wonders of fresh produce, and after Miguel finally finds the patch of tall, yellow blossoms, a

festive celebration ensues at the community garden where a diverse group of friends and Miguel's two fathers feast on all of the fresh fruits and vegetables.

[Amazon](#)

[Bookshop.org](#)

[Barnes and Noble](#)

The Reviews for MIGUEL are in...

Editorial Reviews

From School Library Journal

Gr 1-3—A charming, educational book about the plants that can grow in their gardens. Miguel needs to find sunflowers for his garden party. Readers learn what is unique about sunflowers and then follow Miguel around the community garden to find one. He goes through several plants that have similarities; in each case, he learns about a different one, and the quest continues. Many animal friends join him, and it happily leads to success, just in time for the garden party. Brown-Wood's words coupled with Hardy's illustrations create a colorful book for kids that centers on a Latinx child; not only is the book informative in the survey of a variety of plants children will find, but it offers further enticement in the form of a garden salad. VERDICT Perfect for introducing kids to nature and a taste of the garden-to-table experience. A great book for the green shelves.—David Roberts

Review

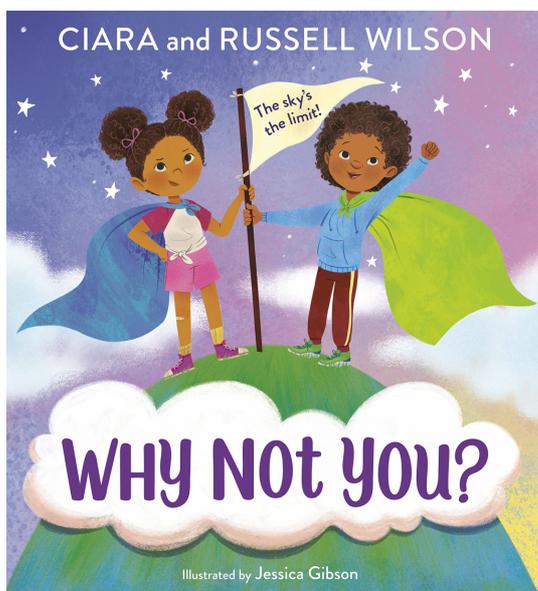
"A charming, educational book about the plants that can grow in their gardens. . . . Brown-Wood's words coupled with Hardy's illustrations create a colorful book for kids. . . . Perfect for introducing kids to nature and a taste of the garden-to-table experience. A great book for the green shelves."—*School Library Journal*

"[A] cheerful second entry in the Where in the Garden? series. . . . Illustrations done in Photoshop with layers of hand-painted ink and watercolor textures depict a cheery, thriving urban garden teeming with bees, ladybugs, birds, and earthworms for children to spot. . . . This appealing title delivers plant facts in a vibrant, harmonious setting."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Hardy's colorful double-page spreads feature lots of garden detail and thoughtfully depict each plant feature Miguel examines. Along with the lesson on some basic plant biology, this book offers a breezy introduction to gardening."—*Booklist*

JBW March and April Releases

A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!



Published March 1st

WHY NOT YOU by Ciara and Russell Wilson with JaNay Brown-Wood

Why not you? Amazing you! You're a winner! You're so strong! You are perfect and important—you and all your gifts belong!

We all have big dreams! Sometimes it's hard to imagine our big dreams coming true. But what if someone saw all the amazing and spectacular parts of us—our winning smiles, our fancy feet, our warm hearts—and asked, "Why not you?"

[Amazon](#)

[Bookshop.org](#)

[Barnes and Noble](#)

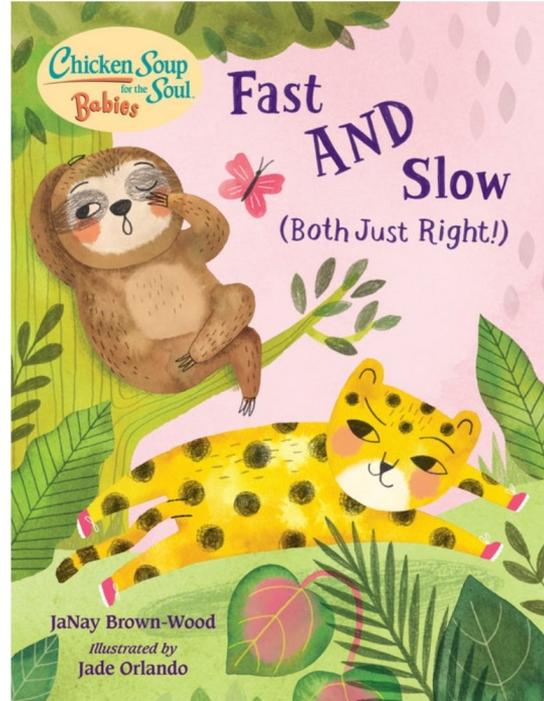
Published April 12th

Chicken Soup for the Soul

BABIES: Fast and Slow (Both Just Right) by JaNay Brown-Wood

Jaguar likes to go fast, but Sloth likes to go slow; Jaguar and Sloth both try out each other's speeds, and learn something new about themselves and one another.

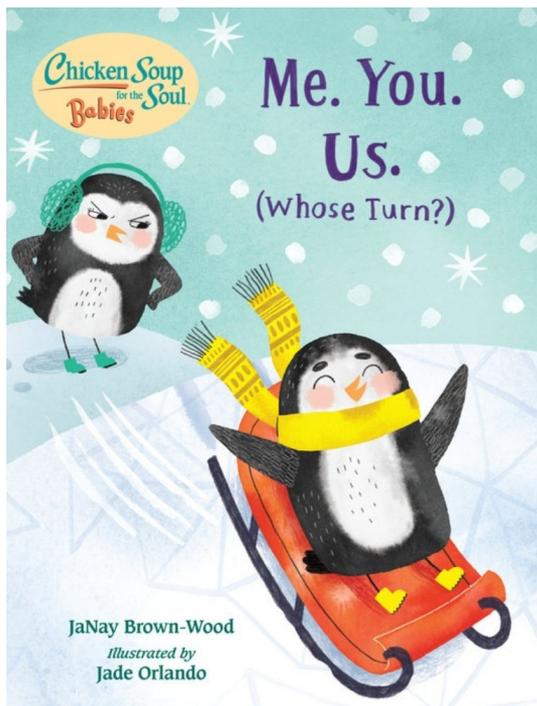
We accept one another's differences when we understand that we come from different walks of life, and some walks are just slower than others.



[Amazon](#)

[Bookshop.org](#)

[Barnes and Noble](#)



Published April 12th

Me. You. Us. (Whose Turn?) by JaNay Brown-Wood

Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies combines sweet stories with humorous lessons to bring out little one's best behavior!

Two baby penguins fight and fuss over the iceberg slide, and then try sharing by taking turns. Can they figure out how to share a cuddle with Daddy, too?

[Amazon](#)

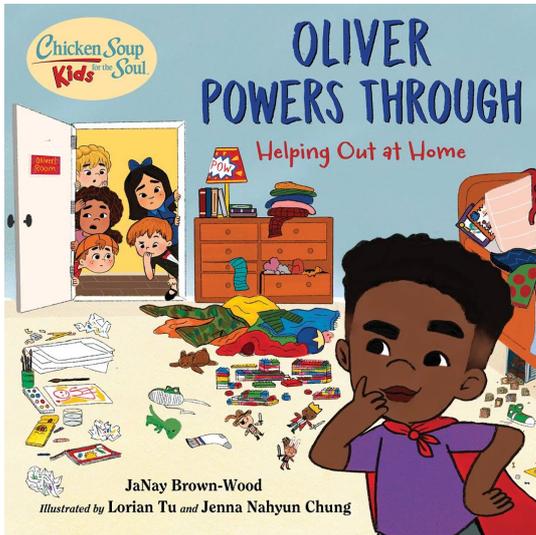
[Bookshop.org](#)

[Barnes and Noble](#)

What's Up Next for JBW Books?

Two New Chicken Soup for the Soul KIDS Books

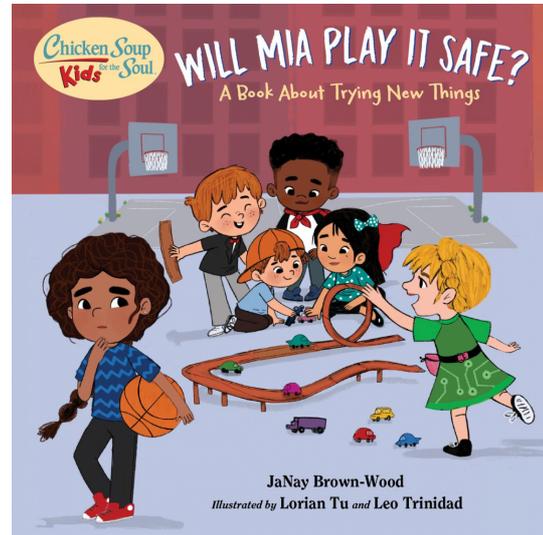
coming out June 14, 2022! Pre-Order Today!



Oliver Powers Through: Helping Out at Home

Everyday heroes never take the easy way out! The Sunshine Squad learns about responsibility.

Before he can play with his friends, Oliver has to finish his chores. . . but there are so many! Sunshine Squad to the rescue! His friends help him finish his homework, clean up, and make his little sister a snack, remembering some of their own jobs along the way. Turn to the back of the book for ideas to help keep track of responsibilities.



Will Mia Play it Safe?: A Book About Trying New Things

Everyday heroes are always open to new experiences! The Sunshine Squad learns about trying new things.

Mia is so good at basketball, but how about trying new things? Not so much. When a new girl, Amelia, shows up to play, Mia sticks with the team she knows--but it turns out that Amelia has a thing or two to teach Mia. Will Ameila fit in with the Sunshine Squad as their resident inventor? The back of the book includes info how children can be open to new ideas and new people.



THANK YOU FOR READING!



JaNay Brown-Wood, PhD, Author & Educator



[Unsubscribe](#)

