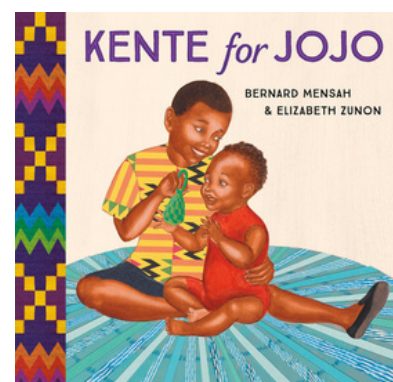
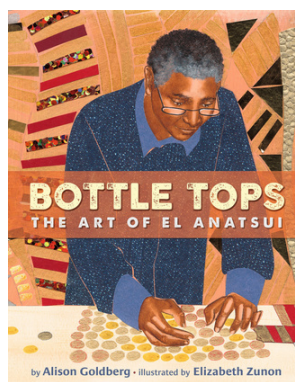
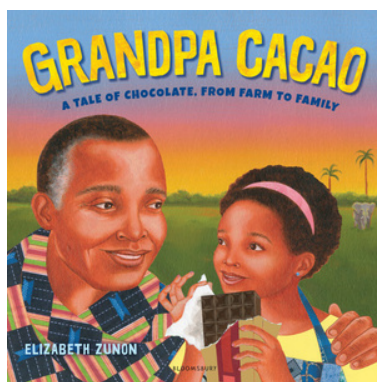


EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Author Study Special Edition

Activities, tools & resources for learning with these books!

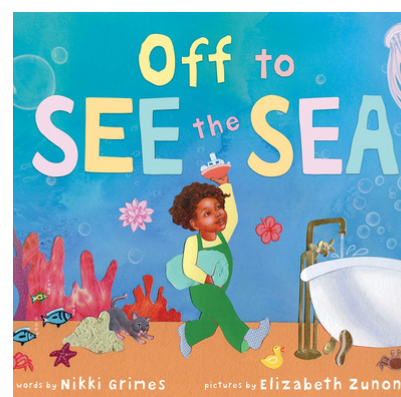
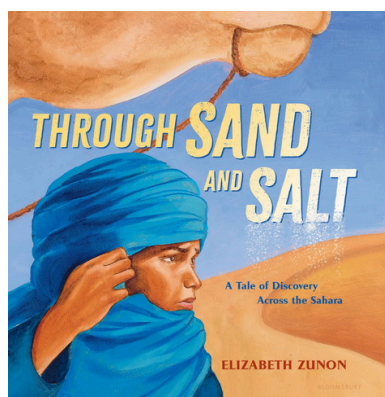
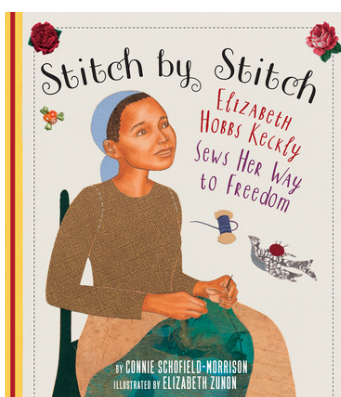


Meet Elizabeth Zunon

Elizabeth (Liz) Zunon grew up in the Ivory Coast of West Africa, learning English and French. She earned her bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2006, and today lives in New York working as an artist/illustrator, book-maker, and jewelry-maker. Her works are influenced from her childhood in the Ivory Coast and her fusion of West African and American cultures.

Learn more about Liz [ONLINE](#).

Explore More Books by Liz Zunon:



EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

LET'S BEGIN!

Before reading the book...

Use the Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) below to orient readers, and to help guide a group discussion. Begin by taking a quiet moment to look closely at the book jacket, allowing time for observation and contemplation of the images.

- What is going on in this picture?
- What do you see that makes you say that? (provide evidence)
- What more can we find?

Watch this [VIDEO](#) for a quick VTS demo. If you have any questions please email Alison Johnson at Island Readers & Writers, ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org.

“For every child who finds themselves in the colors and patterns of their culture.” Benard Mensah, Kente for Jojo

LET'S BUILD BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE!

What knowledge and experiences will help students better understand these texts?

Before reading, explore vocabulary through discussion and activities to help students build understanding and prepare for all three texts.

- Tradition
- Heritage
- Symbolism
- Recycle
- Preserve
- Textile
- Community
- Culture
- Artifact
- Ghana
- Fair Trade
- **Cacao**
- **Cocoa**

Try These Activities!

- **Act-it-Out-** Act it out.
- **Quick Sketch-** Draw the meaning.
- **Guess the Word-** Give clues.
- **Vocabulary Hunt-** Find words in text.
- **Word Map-** Connect ideas.
- **Word Builder-** Draw • Define • Use.

HINT:

Cacao is the raw bean used to make chocolate.

Cocoa refers to the processed product.

STANDARDS

Covered throughout this
Explore More Book Guide:

L.4. Use context clues, analyze meaningful word parts, and consult general and specialized reference materials as appropriate to determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases from grade level content.

SL.1. Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.

SL.2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

SL.3. Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.

R.4. Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts.

R.5. Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text.

R.6. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

R.8. Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole.

LET'S TALK!

Discussion Questions

These featured texts help students explore culture, art, tradition, creativity, and community while providing the opportunity to make meaningful connections.

Grandpa Cacao: A Tale of Chocolate, from Farm to Family

1. Zunon used multiple art techniques throughout this book. Read the **back matter** to learn why this choice was made. How does it help you understand the story better?

2. Have you ever tasted raw cacao? How would you describe its flavor?

Activity Extension-

Conduct a class taste test and graph everyone's results.

3. What is Grandpa Cacao wearing when he arrives? Do you know what this fabric is called? Discuss the cultural significance?

Let's Read More: *Kente for Jojo*, another book illustrated by Zunon, to learn more about the history and meaning of this fabric.

BACK MATTER:

pages within a bound book that are situated after the last page of a main text, or book proper.

STANDARDS cont.

R.11. Analyze and evaluate content presented in various texts.

W.1. Use an inquiry process to gather relevant, credible information/evidence from a variety of sources.

W.3. Routinely produce a variety of clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, audience, and purpose.

A2. Literary Texts- Students read fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry, within a grade appropriate span of text complexity.

Social Studies: African culture, geography, and traditions,

Visual Arts: African art, textiles, and artistic expression

Bottle Tops: The Art of El Anatsui

Learn all about El Anatsui [ONLINE](#).

1. In the book *Bottle Tops: The Art of El Anatsui*, one of El Anatsui's artworks is titled *Fresh and Fading Memories*. What do the words "Fresh" and "Fading Memories" mean to you? Why do you think this title was chosen?

2. Discuss why El Anatsui might have used recycled bottle tops instead of traditional art materials?

Kente for Jojo

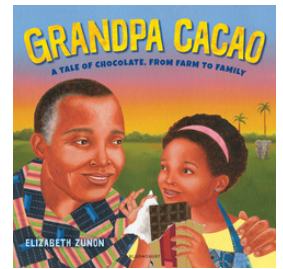
1. Kente cloth is often called "The cloth that talks." What do you think its colors, patterns, and the way it is worn tell us? Why do you think **symbolism** is an important part of Kente cloth?

SYMBOLISM:

practice of using tangible objects, colors, or actions to represent abstract ideas, emotions, or deeper meanings.

2. Why is it important to learn about traditions from different cultures? How do all three books show the importance of preserving culture and traditions?

LET'S CREATE!
Book-Inspired Art



Grandpa Cacao: A Tale of Chocolate, from Farm to Family

Create a map of Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) in West Africa. Include cities, lakes, rivers, mountains, and other land or water forms. Then research some of the plants and animals. Make a list of what you learn.

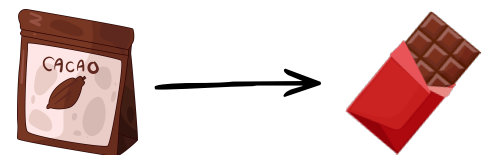
Create a travel brochure that showcases Ghana. Work with a partner to research one aspect of the country such as its animals, plants, sports, languages, etc. Create a mini poster to teach your classmates about what you learned.

MEDIUM:
the physical or digital material used to create an artwork.

Elizabeth Zunon created the illustrations using collage techniques with oil paints on watercolor paper. Create your own painting using the same **mediums** and inspiration of the bright colors of the Ivory Coast.

Provide students with small samples of different types of chocolate (such as milk, dark, and white chocolate). Have students taste each sample and vote for their favorite. Record the votes and create a class graph.

Design a timeline that shows how cacao becomes chocolate—from a cacao tree to the chocolate we eat



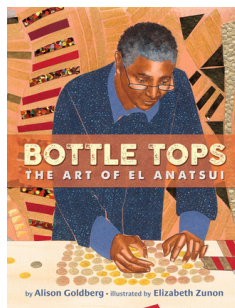
Wikimedia Commons:
Ripe Cocoa pods at an African Cocoa Initiative farm in Ghana

Research a food or dessert made with cacao. Then, use the template in Appendix A to create a recipe card and share your recipe with the class.

- **Younger students:** Draw the ingredients, illustrate each step in order, and draw the finished recipe.
- **Teacher tip-** collect everyone's recipes and create a class cookbook!

Bottle Tops: The Art of El Anatsui

Imagine you are an **art critic** visiting a museum featuring El Anatsui's artwork. Select **ONE PIECE** to review. Describe the materials used, textures, and patterns you see. Explain whether you would recommend others see it and why.



FUN FACT:

El Anatsui encourages museums to arrange his artwork in a different way each time it is displayed, making every installation unique.

ART CRITIC:

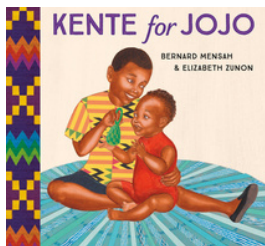
a professional who evaluates and writes about art for publications, offering critiques that provide feedback, validation, and historical context to aid an artist's growth.



Create a sculpture or collage using trash or recycled materials, such as bottle caps, candy wrappers, and aluminum foil. Transform these everyday objects into a unique work of art. Teacher Tip: Display the finished pieces to create a classroom art gallery.

Writing Extension- Choose one item from your artwork. Imagine all the people that may have used it before you. Create a story about the journey your object took before becoming part of your artwork.

Kente for Jojo



MATH EXTENSION

Kente cloth is made with repeating patterns. Look closely at **EXAMPLES** of kente cloth and identify the repeating shapes and colors. Then, create your own repeating pattern using colored paper, pattern blocks, crayons, or markers.

- **Younger Students:** Create and continue a simple repeating pattern (AB, AAB, or ABC) using colors and shapes.
- **Older Students:** Design a more complex repeating pattern inspired by Kente cloth. Identify the pattern and explain how it repeats.

Design your own kente cloth: Imagine you had your own special fabric. Research the meanings of different colors, patterns, and symbols in Ghanaian culture. Then, create your own design.

- **Younger students:** Draw and color your kente cloth. Share what your colors and patterns represent.
- **Older students:** Weave your kente cloth using strips of colored paper. Then, write a short summary describing the meaning of the colors, patterns, and symbols you chose.

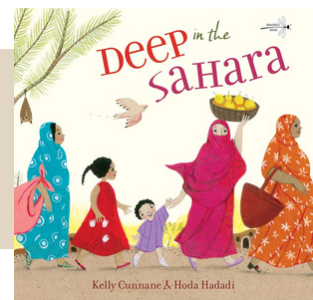
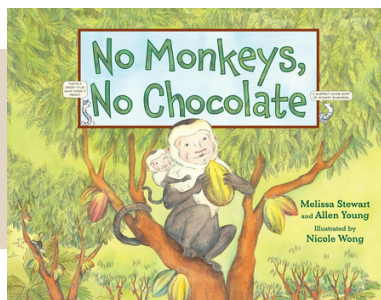
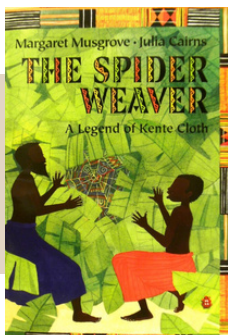
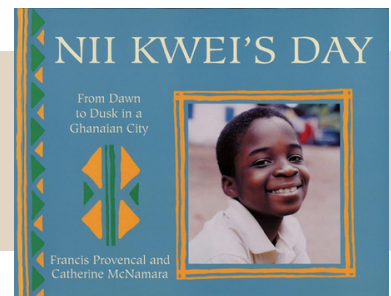
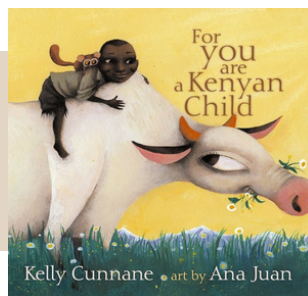
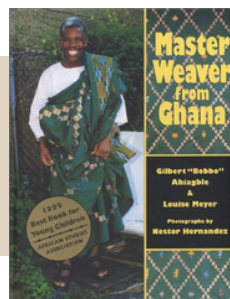
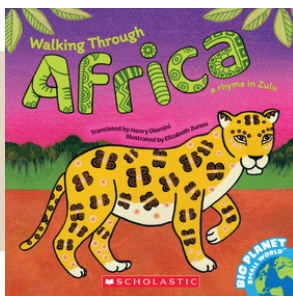
LET'S DIVE DEEPER!

Explore More

- Explore [FAIRTRADE-CERTIFIED](#) chocolate brands and investigate what makes them "fair." Research Fairtrade chocolate made or sold in Maine.
- Learn about the history and symbolism of the kente cloth in this [ARTICLE](#).
- [VIDEO](#) -The Only True Origin Story of Asante Kente tells the history and traditions of Kente cloth from master weavers in Bonwire, Ghana, where Kente weaving began.
- Learn more about El Anatsui's techniques, materials, and artistic process in the Brooklyn Museum [TEACHER RESOURCE](#)- Gravity and Grace: Monumental Works by El Anatsui.
- Explore African art and cultures through the [NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART](#).
- Students at Edward Smith School in New York turned cacao pods into chocolate! Explore their [STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS](#) from cacao pod to finished chocolate bar.

LET'S READ MORE!

Text to Text Connections



Recipe Card



Recipe Name: _____

Cooking time: _____

Serves: _____ Difficulty: ★★★★★

Ingredients needed:

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Directions:

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Recipe Card



Recipe Name: _____

Cooking time: _____

Serves: _____ Difficulty: ★★★★★

Ingredients needed:

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Directions:

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