

Life Doesn't Frighten Me- 2nd grade lesson plan

Maya Angelou (1928-2014)

Maya Angelou was an American Author, actress, screenwriter, dancer, poet and civil rights activist. She is best known for her memoir, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, which was the first non fiction best seller by a black woman. Her quotes, poems, books have been an inspiration to many.

Preview the book and/or share it with your class with the videos below.

This is a video with the book being read.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wviha2H-8Mg>

Below is a video with Maya Angelou reciting the poem (at 33 seconds) with some of the pages of the book being shown.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UN4_wfm7rjE

Life Doesn't Frighten Me (1993)

These are a couple of stanzas from the poem

“Shadows on the wall
Noises down the hall
Life doesn't frighten me at all”

“I've got a magic charm
That I keep up my sleeve
I can walk the ocean floor
And never have to breathe.

Life doesn't frighten me at all
Not at all
Not at all.”

Lesson Plan

Reading the book in its entirety to the class or just using these parts of the poem. Asking these questions about the poem or another suggestion, having them draw a picture about the poem.

What makes you feel brave?

What do you like about the poem?

Are there things you are afraid of?