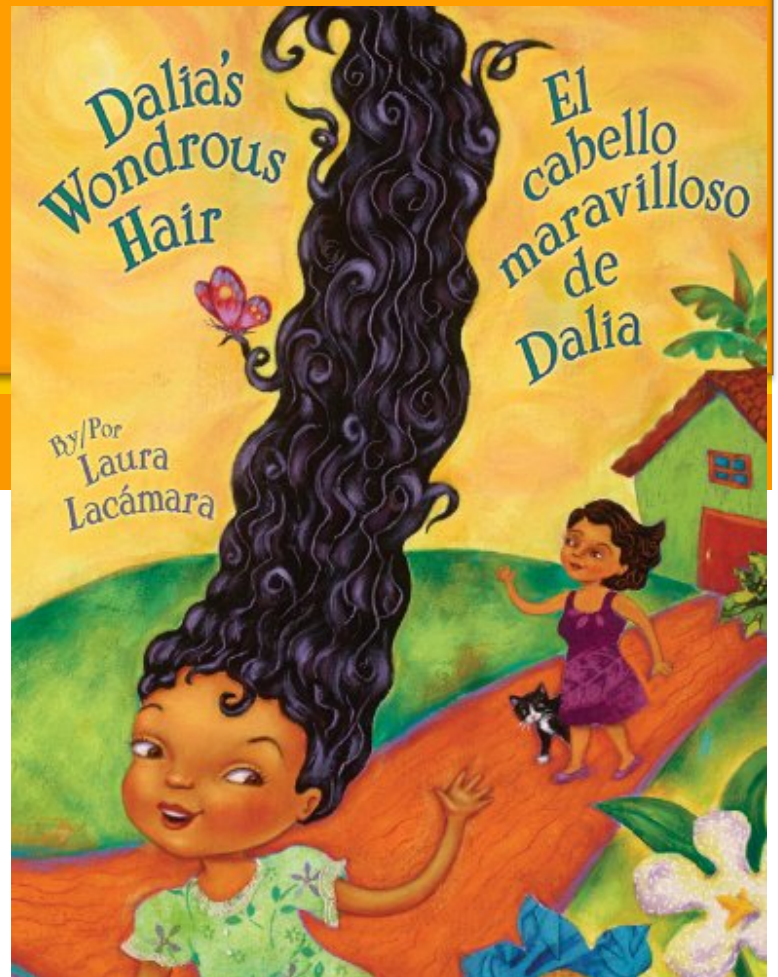


Dalia's Wondrous Hair

El cabello
maravilloso de
Dalia

By Laura Lacámara

One night little Dalia was sleeping in her mother's silk sheets. Her hair began to grow and grow! Dalia goes out into the woods to decorate her long locks. Her hair mimics a tree. She nourishes and cares for her hair just as mother nature does. Read on to find out what wondrous surprises Dalia holds in her hair.



About the Author



Laura Lacámara is a Cuban-American artist and author. She wrote and illustrated *Dalia's Wondrous Hair / El cabello maravilloso de Dalia* (Piñata Books, 2014). She is the illustrator of *Alicia's Fruity Drinks / Las aguas frescas de Alicia* (Piñata Books, 2012) and *The Runaway Piggy / El cochinito fugitivo* (Piñata Books, 2010) and is the author of *Floating on Mama's Song / Flotando en la canción de mamá* (HarperCollins, 2010). She lives with her family in Venice, California.

Visit her website for more info: www.lauralacamara.com

Before Reading Discussion Questions

PreK- 3rd Grade Discussion Questions

Who is the author?

What does an author do?

What tools does an author need to write a story?

Who is the illustrator?

What does an illustrator do?

What tools does an illustrator need to draw?

1st -3rd Grade Discussion Questions

What do you think the word wondrous means?

What is a main character?

Look at the book cover, who do you think is the main character? Why do you think this?

What is predicting?

What can you predict about the story from the front cover?

Based on the front cover, what is unique about Dalia's hair? Why?

Questions to Discuss After Reading

What was special or “wondrous” about Dalia’s hair?

What came out of Dalia’s hair?

What do you think Dalia’s idea was at the end of the story? What makes you think this?

Symmetry Activity: PreK & Kinder

What you will need:

- construction paper
- paint (tempra/ acrylic/ thick paint)
- paintbrush
- scissors

Trace a giant butterfly pattern on a piece of construction paper. Have students paint a design on one half of the construction paper. Make sure students lay the paint on thick. Fold the paper and press down. Open the paper to reveal a symmetrical pattern. Talk about symmetry with your students. Discuss how the butterflies in *Dalia’s Wondrous Hair* have symmetry on their wings. Once the paint is dry, students can cut out the original, traced butterfly. Activity and photos courtesy of <http://kreativeinkinder.blogspot.com>.



Art Activity: PreK, Kinder, 1st Grade

In *Dalia’s Wondrous Hair*, Dalia’s hair acts a cocoon for butterflies. Use the letter B to make a butterfly. You can laminate the letter B and students can glue tissue paper to the back to create a “stained glass window” affect like the example below. You can also run off Xerox copies of the letter B and have students decorate it as a butterfly using construction paper, found objects, crayons, and markers. Activity and photo courtesy of crystalandcomp.com.



*Step-by-step directions for the stained glass window butterfly can be found here: <http://crystalandcomp.com/b-is-for-butterfly-letter-of-the-week-preschool-craft/>

Chromatography Activity: PreK, Kinder, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade

Learn about separating colors in this activity and create beautiful butterflies at the same time! Color a ring in the center of the coffee filter. Use one color per filter. Place a filter in a cone-like shape so that it just touches the water in a jar. Watch the colors begin to separate! For a complete step-by-step guide, visit: <http://buggyandbuddy.com/chromatography-butterflies-separating-colors-in-markers/?crlt.pid=camp.rRwLUDk20wdx> Activity and photos courtesy of Buggyandbuddy.com.

What you will need:

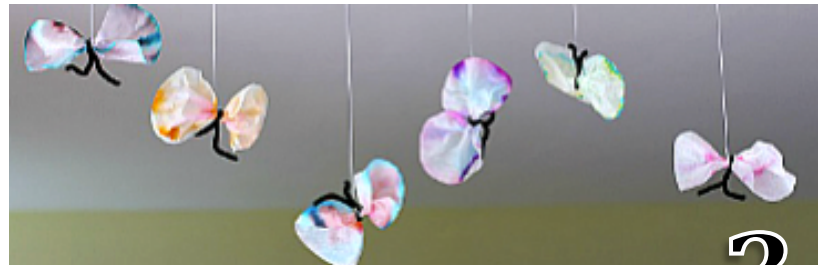
- coffee filters
- markers
- jars
- water
- string
- scissors
- pipe cleaners



1



2



3

Word Sort Activity: Kinder, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade

Use the word sort worksheet below. Besides butterflies, there are many things in *Dalia's Wondrous Hair* that begin with the letter B. Have students match the words beginning with B to the correct illustration. **Students should use the words from the word bank and write the appropriate word in the blank space below the picture.**

Name: _____

Dalia's Wondrous Hair Word Sort

B Words

Broom

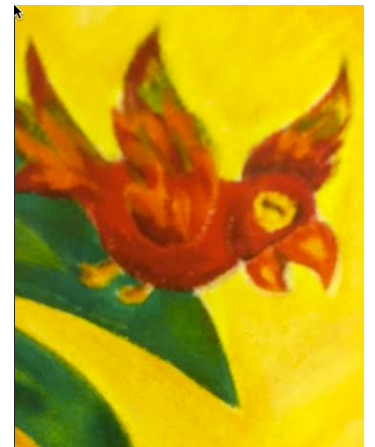
Bug

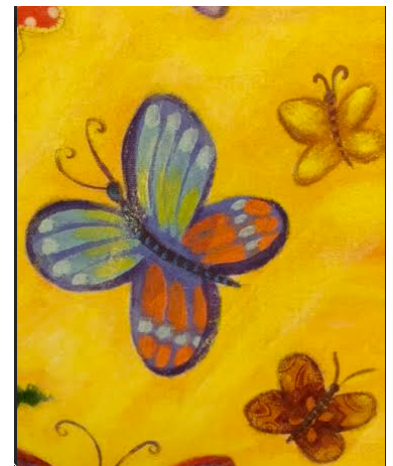
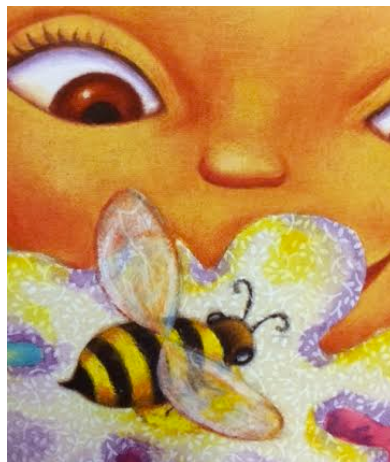
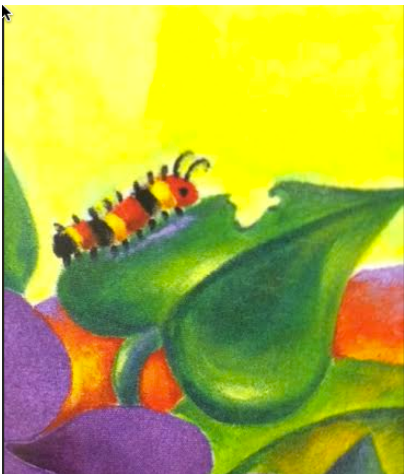
Bee

Bed

Bird

Butterfly



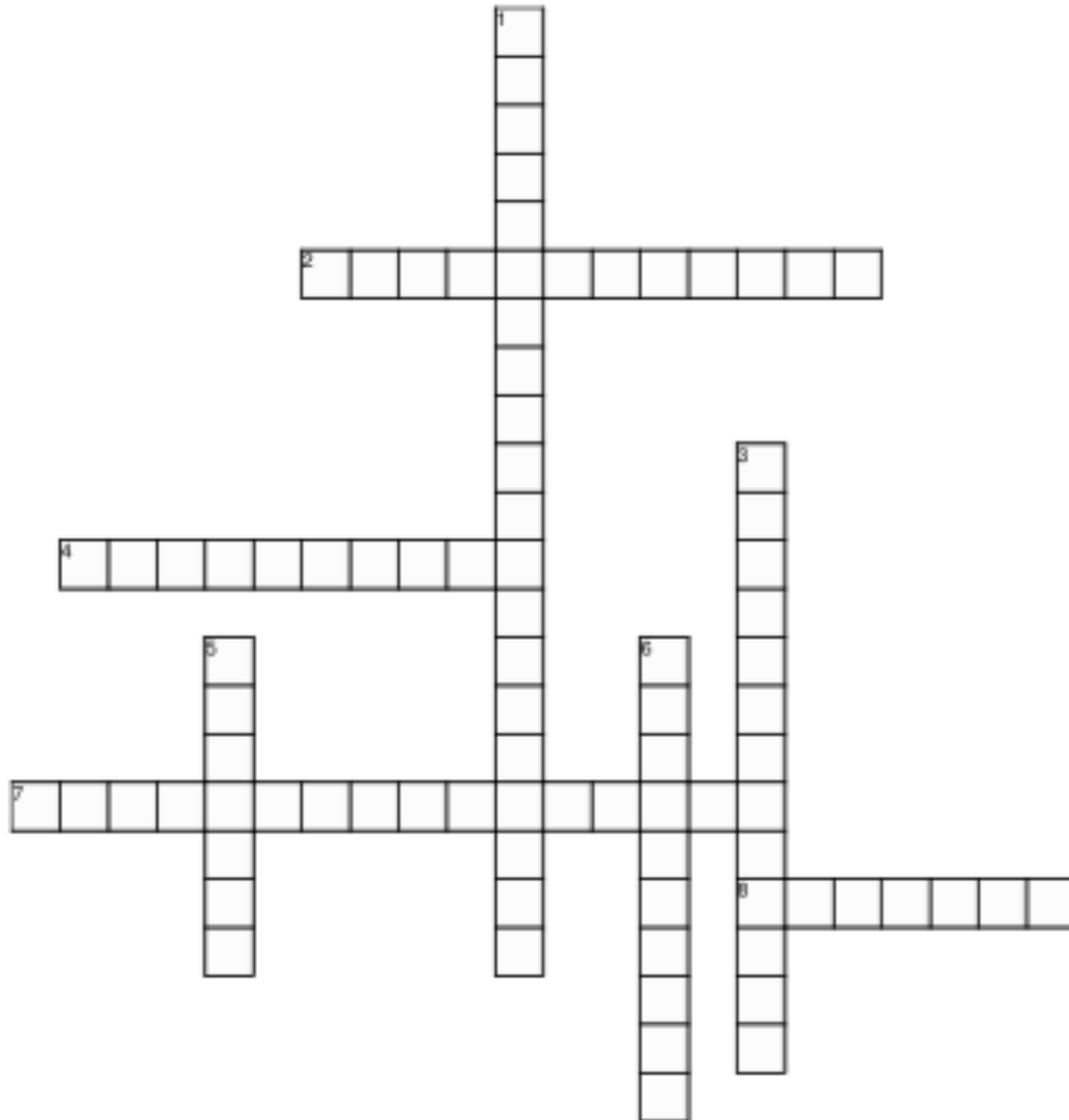


Crossword Activity: 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade

Name: _____

Dalia's Wondrous Hair Crossword

Complete the crossword below using the definitions given in the back of the book, Dalia's Wondrous Hair.



Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Crossword Maker

Across

2. The leaves of these lovely purple flowers play host to the caterpillars of Great-Spangled Fritillary and Meadow Fritillary Butterflies
4. This huge white flower blooms after dark and glows in the moonlight. Its sweet-smelling scent has found its way into perfumes, shampoos, and other potions.
7. the national tree of Cuba
8. This animal acted as Dalia's alarm clock in the story.

Down

1. This large fragrant lily is the national flower of Cuba.
3. The fern-like leaves of this tropical tree serve as caterpillar food for Mimosa Yellow, Large Orange Sulfur, and the Cassius Blue butterflies.
5. The rare Atala butterfly uses this as her host plant. The red and yellow caterpillars feed and later make their cocoons on this type of plant's leaves
6. fields of this popular crop grow everywhere on the island. Cuban children enjoy chewing the raw cane stalks to get the sweet juice inside.

Other Ideas/Extensions for the Classroom

PreK-1st Grade

Teach your class about the lifecycle of a butterfly and metamorphosis. Explain how Dalia's hair was used as a cocoon in the story.

2nd-3rd Grade

Have your students do cultural research on the author's home country, Cuba. They can research the diverse plants of Cuba, food, music, art, history, etc.