



# Illustrated Dream Poems

SELF-CONFIDENCE and STUDENT VOICE



**RESPOND** to the closing rap in *Darryl's Dream*. Consider the courage he developed throughout the story as he spoke out against bullies and pursued his poetry even when others laughed at him. He used poems to share his dreams, let people see who he was inside, and announce his future plans. Examine the descriptive words he uses and how he affirms his strengths. Examine the beat, jazzy rhythm, and rhyming lines as you identify what makes this rap such a powerful poem. Use Darryl's rap as inspiration to express your voice.



**CONNECT** your dreams for the future with your interests and talents that make your star shine today.



**ASK YOURSELF:**

Where do I want to live and what do I want to do in the future?

What do I want to learn more about?

What strengths do I have that I should nurture and develop?

How could my curiosity and creativity guide my path?



You can call me Darryl  
You can call me D  
The initials of my name are D-M-C  
Darryl McDaniels, that's my name  
One day I'm gonna be in the hall of fame  
Since kindergarten I've acquired the knowledge  
And after 12th grade, I'm going straight to college  
I'm a nice kid from Hollis, Queens,  
And I love eating chicken and collard greens  
I read comic books and I love to draw  
I've been drawing superheroes since I was 4  
I get good grades and I love school  
Because education is really cool  
I wear my glasses, they help me see  
There's a lot of other kids who are just like me  
Being good is like A-B-C  
It is easy as 1-2-3  
I like playing games and making friends  
But I don't get mad if I don't win  
Don't be a bully and don't tease others  
Treat each other like sisters and brothers  
Call me Darryl McDaniels or Darryl Mack,  
And call this poem Darryl's Rap!



How can I help other people see who I am inside?

What sketches could illustrate my big dreams?





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## SELF-CONFIDENCE and STUDENT VOICE



**CREATE** an illustrated poem about you and your dreams. Not all poems rhyme, but rap poems such as Darryl's have rhyme and rhythm. Decide how you'd like your thoughts to flow and if repetition, rhyme, and a verbal beat will help you express your dreams. Your illustrations can include small scenes or symbols that help others visualize your main ideas, and you might add fancy lettering to emphasize important words.

WRITE AND  
ILLUSTRATE YOUR  
DREAM POEM.



**PRESENT** your illustrated poem to friends and family. You may want to dramatize the presentation by using a spoon or other object as an imaginary microphone. If this is a rap with a rhythmic beat, invite the audience to add claps, snaps, or rap-style drumming as they listen to you perform. After the presentation, ask them if your illustrated dream poem helped show who you are inside and your vision for the future. Save this poem so you can look back on it to remember how special you are and how it helped you become your own self advocate!



### Note for teachers and parents:

For more creative inspiration and hands-on explorations go to [Crayola.com/CreativityWeek](https://www.crayola.com/CreativityWeek). To share student artwork on social media please post using [#CrayolaCreativityWeek](https://twitter.com/CrayolaCreativityWeek). We can't wait to see what they create.



Turning Today's Interests  
into Tomorrow's Careers  
Thinking Sheet

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