

## Lesson Plan on *Weaving the Rainbow*

Guide students to cluster around demonstration of spinning and weaving. In conversation with students, emphasize terms of *shuttle*, *warp*, *weft*, *wool*, *yarn*, *weaving*, *spinning*.

PREPARE: Introduce the book *Weaving the Rainbow* and highlight the title, author, and illustrator. Raise the question, “How can sheep become a rainbow?”

READ: Read the book aloud as the book is projected on the large screen.

RESPOND: Lead a short, general discussion. Suggested questions:

How do sheep become a rainbow?

What is your favorite image of the book?

What is your favorite part of the process of making a rainbow?

What experience have you had with sheep, spinning, or weaving?

EXPLORE: Introduce and share the template poem; explain how to create the poem; give an overview of the directions, and brainstorm with the children some words, images, and experiences that might be used to fill in the template.

Then, pass out the writing journal materials (booklets); point out the resources on the table (example poem, directions, pencils, paper strips); guide and monitor the students through the steps to complete the activity. Be sure to have them write the poem before turning to the weaving of the cover.

Facilitate sharing of poems at tables.

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Weaving the Rainbow

By George Ella Lyon

Illustrated by Stephanie Anderson

Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster

Ages 4-8

*Lesson Plan written by Martha McGovern, University of West Virginia/ Parkersburg*

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## Template Poem

### I Am a Weaver

I am a weaver.

The warp of my loom is my mother and father, my sister and brothers,  
our collie Sunny, our pony Cindy, and the paths and fields of our farm.

Through these solid yarns, to make the weft,

I guide the shuttle and weave in

the blues of swimming on sunny, summer days,

the reds of fall leaves and bonfires,

the silver of skating on moonlit winter nights,

the slimy brown of spring peepers in the swampy pond.

I am a weaver, weaving my rainbow, weaving my life.

*Written by Martha McGovern*

## I Am a Weaver

I am a weaver.

The warp of my loom is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_.

Through these solid yarns, to make the weft,

I guide the shuttle and weave in

the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

I am a weaver, weaving my rainbow, weaving my life.

Written by \_\_\_\_\_

## DIRECTIONS

1. Write your name on the journal cover.
2. Complete the “I Am a Weaver” poem.
3. Sign your poem.
4. Select strips of paper for the cover of your journal.
5. Weave the paper into the cover of your journal.

### If you have extra time:

- Illustrate your poem.
- Read other pages in your journal.
- Write another entry in your journal.

## DEFINITIONS

Warp - the threads that run lengthwise in a fabric

Weft - the threads interwoven through the warp (also called *woof*)

Shuttle - a device used to weave the weft threads between the warp threads