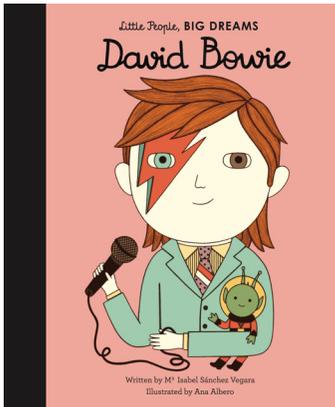


# Little People, BIG DREAMS™

## TEACHERS' GUIDE



David Bowie  
Little People, BIG DREAMS™  
Written by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara  
Illustrated by Ana Albero  
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### LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Even as a child, David Bowie showed an independent streak. He was thrilled by different types of music, dance, and art, and loved to experiment with different looks. And although he embraced change, one thing stayed the same—David was never afraid to be himself, no matter what anyone else thought. With determination and hard work, David eventually became a world-famous, award winning musician who influenced countless people across the globe. Through it all, his ability to stay true to himself and his dreams continues to inspire children of all ages to follow in his footsteps.

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS IN THIS UNIT

1. What is David Bowie famous for doing?
2. What happened to David's eye as a child?
3. What is a common theme in many of David's songs?
4. Who were some of the famous characters that David created?
5. What kind of people did David hope would like his songs?
6. How did David feel about change?

### CLASSROOM DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. The book describes how David hoped "that—one day—all the lonely kids on planet earth would sing his songs out loud." Ask the students why they think he wrote his songs for lonely kids. In what ways do they think he hoped his music would help them?

2. In the lyrics of his music, David included many references to outer space, aliens, galaxies, planets, etc. Ask the class what they think he liked so much about outer space. Do any of them like outer space that much? How do their interests influence their art projects, homework, hobbies, etc.?
3. David not only loved music and wrote songs, but he was also interested in art, design, and dance. Ask the class to describe the ways he incorporated all these different elements into his music. In what ways do they think these other elements helped David better express himself?
4. The end of the book explains that because he was never “afraid to be himself, little David became the most unique star who ever fell to earth.” Ask students if any of them ever been afraid, or know someone who has been afraid, to be him or herself? Ask them if they feel like David’s story has inspired them.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

1. To set the mood for your chosen activity or activities, select a few David Bowie songs to play for the class. Ask the class if any of them have heard the songs before. Since David was also a dancer, allow the student to show off their dance moves to the music! Afterward, ask the students to share their thoughts about his songs.
2. Revisit the pages of the book that show David painting – ask the class if his drawings look like his subject. What is different? Using this as inspiration, ask the students to choose an object to paint, but allow them to paint it however they see it – a different color, an abstract interpretation, or even in outer space!
3. As the book references, many of David’s songs were about outer space. Have the students write their own song lyrics or poem about outer space. Ask for volunteers to read their works aloud.
4. David experimented with different looks throughout his career.

Let the student try to reinvent themselves as David did. If you have a dress up box, have the children select different outfits to try on. As an alternative, they can create drawings of themselves in different outfits, styles, settings, etc.

