

## LESSON PLAN TITLE: The Power of Friendship

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**Writer-in-Residence:** Ber-Henda Williams

**Grade Level:** 3rd-12th

**Model Works Used:** Count on Me Bruno Mars

**Literary Learning objective(s):** Students will be able to identify what provides them with support and connection in the context of friendships and analyze song lyrics to express the impact of music.

**Themes:** Friendship, support

**MDE/SEL Standards:** Considering the well being of others, Self Awareness, Empathy

**Materials Needed:** pen, paper, notebook and copy of song lyrics

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### Opening Activity

Questions to ponder: What makes you enjoy a song? Is it that it has a good sound? Interesting words? When you listen to a song, do you really listen to the words? How often do you think about the meaning of a song?

### Pre-Discussion

Friendships free write: Describe a best friend. What makes them a best friend? Why is their friendship important?

### Model Poem Discussion

Listen to Count on Me by Bruno Mars

### Prewriting

What are the reasons you listen to music?  
How did listening to this music make you feel?  
What is your go to song when you are feeling down?

### Writing Prompt

Based on the song lyrics, do you have a friend like this? Are you a friend like this? Write a poem as dedicated to a friend or loved one that helped support you in a time of need. Write 5-7 lines about this person.

### Share / Reflect

How did it feel to write this poem? Share your poem with your friend by calling or texting or emailing it to them.

### Supplemental Materials

Video for song [Count on Me by Bruno](#)

### Bruno Mars Lyrics

"Count On Me"

If you ever find yourself stuck in the middle of the sea  
I'll sail the world to find you  
If you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can't see  
I'll be the light to guide you

We find out what we're made of  
When we are called to help our friends in need

You can count on me  
Like 1, 2, 3  
I'll be there  
And I know when I need it  
I can count on you  
Like 4, 3, 2  
You'll be there  
'Cause that's what friends are supposed to do

If you're tossin' and you're turnin'  
And you just can't fall asleep  
I'll sing a song beside you  
And if you ever forget how much you really mean to me  
Every day I will remind you

We find out what we're made of  
When we are called to help our friends in need

You can count on me  
Like 1, 2, 3  
I'll be there  
And I know when I need it  
I can count on you  
Like 4, 3, 2  
You'll be there  
'Cause that's what friends are supposed to do

You'll always have my shoulder when you cry  
I'll never let go, never say goodbye  
You know

You can count on me  
Like 1, 2, 3  
I'll be there  
And I know when I need it  
I can count on you  
Like 4, 3, 2  
And you'll be there  
'Cause that's what friends are supposed to do

You can count on me 'cause I can count on you

**Check/Highlight all that apply**

- Text by a contemporary/diverse author**
- Translated text
- Visual Thinking Strategies
- Close reading or other analysis
- A step of the writing process**
- Planning & Reflection Strategy**
- New device, concept or theme
- Social-Emotional Learning**
  - Self-Management
  - Social Awareness**
  - Relationship Skills**
  - Responsible-Decision Making**



☐ Self-Awareness

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