

Just for Kids!

Complete this activity and bring this page back to the Library to collect a prize. We will hang it up in an art display!

Cici wins the cooking contest by making iû-pñg, a traditional dish from her family's heritage. Miranda comes second with a cardamom pistachio cake. Write and illustrate your favorite family recipe! What ingredients does your recipe call for? How do you use them? Refer to cookbooks to see how recipes are written. The Library is a great place to find them.

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First Name: _____ Grade: _____

I read *Measuring Up* with my _____
(family, classroom, grandmother, parents, dog etc.)

MEASURING UP FAMILY READING KIT BOOKLET

Book: *Measuring Up*

After moving with her family from Taiwan to Seattle, Cici starts making friends and settling in, but what she wants more than anything is to bring her grandmother from Taiwan to Seattle to celebrate her 70th birthday. To raise the money for her grandmother's flight, she enters a cooking competition with a cash prize. Through this competition, Cici learns a lot more than some new recipes.

Author: Lily LaMotte

Lily LaMotte is an American author who, like her main character Cici, loves to cook and invent new recipes! *Measuring Up* is LaMotte's first book, and she will be publishing two more in 2023: the picture book *Chloe's Lunar New Year* and graphic novel *Unhappy Camper*.

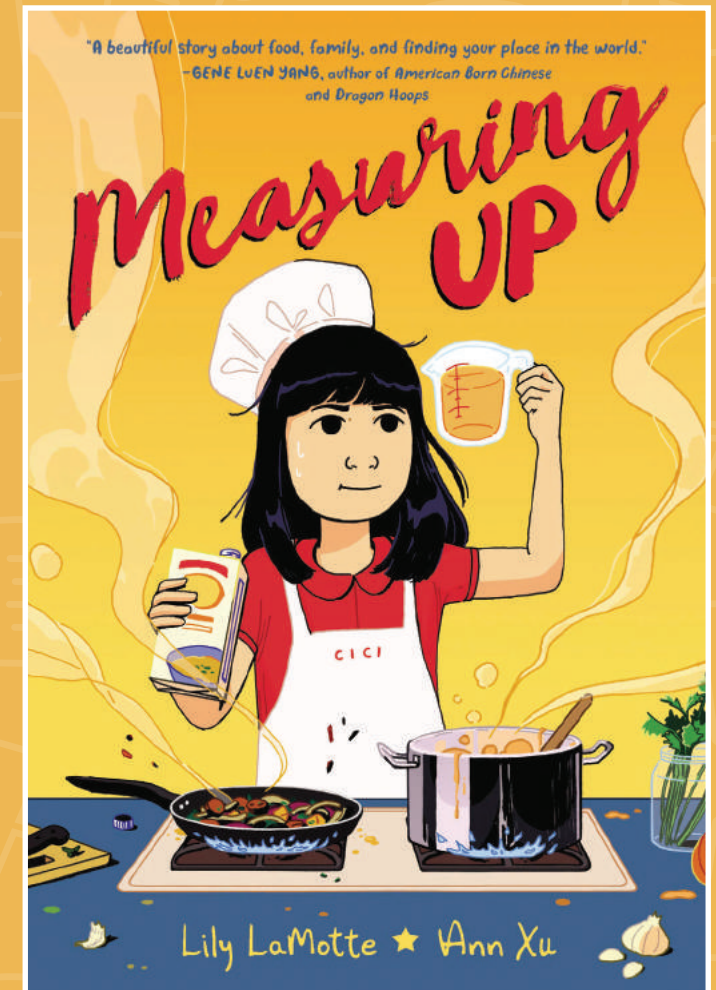
Illustrator: Ann Xu

Ann Xu is an American cartoonist and illustrator who has partnered with Lily LaMotte for both *Measuring Up* and *Unhappy Camper*. She enjoys drawing nostalgic themes, like childhood, heritage, and home.

Historical Context: A contemporary graphic novel published in 2020.

Recommended: ages 8 – 12.

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Discussion Questions

Read each question aloud and share your answers. Don't worry about staying on topic, see where the conversation leads you and encourage everyone to ask questions of their own.

- "Microaggressions are the "everyday slights, indignities and insults committed against marginalized groups because of their membership to those groups." (Professor Derald Sue)." What are some of the microaggressions that Cici experiences within this book?

- Cici's family is Taiwanese living in Seattle. Through her cooking, Cici "brings her grandmother with her to America." What does it mean to Cici to be able to look back on her time cooking with A-má? Many families have an immigration story as part of their history and heritage. What is your family's story?

- At first, Cici doesn't trust her friends to not judge her home or the food she cooks. As their relationship strengthens and they learn more about each other and how they are similar, she begins to let them in. How does Cici's vulnerability change the relationship with her friends and her family?

- From the Julia Child videos, Cici learns that "When you flip anything, you really must have the courage of your conviction... The only way to learn how to flip things is just to flip them." How does Cici apply this sentiment to her cooking journey and to her life? When was a time that you, or someone you know, had to "have the courage of (their) conviction"?

- The title *Measuring Up* fits into the cooking theme of the story. What other ways is *Measuring Up* an apt title for Cici's story?

An Activity for your Family to Do Together

Measuring Up is a graphic novel. Make your own graphic novel about your family's history's using a technique called **storyboarding**.


1. Using the ruler, draw a storyboard template. It can be as simple as a rectangle divided into sections. Make sure each section is large enough to draw in. You can have several rectangular storyboard strips on one page. Make sure you leave room to write underneath each section. Each person can draw their own storyboard or your family can work on one together.
2. Share a story from your family's history, recent or long ago in the past. Write down key details from the story: who is it about? What do they do? Where and when does the story take place? What happens and how is it resolved? Tip: family photos are a great way to get story ideas.
3. Create a storyboard that illustrates the story sequentially: What happened first? Next? In the middle? At the end?

Storyboarding is a technique that illustrators use to help keep track of a story's main ideas and supporting details by drawing and writing about the important scenes.

Graphic Novel is a format, not a genre of books. Graphic novels can be fiction, non-fiction, history, fantasy, or anything in between. Graphic novels are like comic books because they use pictures to tell a story. Unlike comic books, graphic novels are generally stand-alone stories with more complex plots.

Storyboards are a set of drawings that tell a story.

Materials Required: • paper • crayons • markers



Sign up for the *Measuring Up* Family Reading Kit Book Club to receive more activities, resources, and invites to programs and events right in your inbox! Register online at calgarylibrary.ca/family-reading-kits