The Poetry Center has recreated the façade of the African National Memorial Bookstore in the Children’s Area and invites you to take a trip through Harlem! Visit this historic bookstore as well as a jazz club and bodega. You’ll find music, literature, and even a portal to a different moment in history in this recreated city!

**BRAVE BOOKS AT THE UA POETRY CENTER**

This exhibition is part of the Poetry Center’s multi-year celebration of independent bookstores and libraries from around the world, which will feature many lost, endangered, and otherwise dramatic and brave oases people have built to protect, house, share, and enjoy books around the world. This season’s featured bookstore is the African National Memorial Bookstore. Learn more about this exhibit and others coming soon at poetry.arizona.edu.
The Apollo Theater in Harlem is where some of the most famous performers in the world have taken the stage. Performances feature singers, musicians, dancers, actors and comedians.

What type of act would you perform at the Apollo? Circle what you might need.

The African National Memorial Bookstore was located in Harlem, New York between the years 1932 and 1974. Though the store is no longer standing, quite a few African American artists and writers found solace there. Created by Lewis Michaux, the store was visited by musicians, athletes and writers such as Louis Armstrong, Eartha Kitt, Muhammed Ali, Malcolm X, Nikki Giovanni, Langston Hughes, and W. E. B. Du Bois. Harlem is a neighborhood in Manhattan that was famous for being home to the “Harlem Renaissance,” a period in the 1920s when African American musicians, writers and artists were finally recognized for their prolific contributions to American culture. Harlem remains an important cultural landmark today.

Map of Harlem, New York
Singer and actress Eartha Kitt was a frequent visitor to the African National Memorial Bookstore. She was known for singing beautiful melodies and even for appearing in movies like *The Emperor’s New Groove*.

Civil rights activist Malcolm X has something special to say to the famous boxer and activist Muhammed Ali. What is he whispering?
I wrote the books *The Book Itch* and *No Crystal Stair* about my great uncle, Lewis Michaux, and his famous bookstore. I won the Coretta Scott King award for my work and will be visiting the Poetry Center in April 2018.

I was born in 1868 in Massachusetts. I am famous for my work as an historian, sociologist, activist and author. I helped create an organization called the NAACP in 1909, which still thrives today. My book, *The Souls of Black Folk*, is still taught in universities.

I was born in 1943 to a long line of storytellers. Before I became a poet, I studied history and helped restore the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee at Fisk, where I went to college. I am sometimes known for reading my poetry against a gospel or jazz backdrop.

Many people know me for my poems, especially, "A Dream Deferred," but I also wrote plays, short stories and novels. I loved to write about my own experience as well as the experiences of other African American people, including difficult times and joyous occasions. My writing was infused with laughter and music.

I was born in Indiana but lived all over the world in places like Ghana, Egypt and China. I met my second husband, W. E. B. Du Bois, at the African National Memorial Bookstore. I once wrote an opera based on conversations I had with Africans in Paris.
Can you name the plants in this picture?