Esperanza's background
By Marcia Campos

Esperanza is the protagonist of the novel *The House on Mango Street*. She is a very unhappy girl for a number of reasons. First, she doesn’t like her new house on Mango Street because it is not what she expected to be, a new big white house with a nice garden surrounded by trees. Second, she feels that her grandmother and mother could have done more with their lives instead of being just housewives. Third, people with no motivation or goals surround her. Esperanza wants to be a "smart cookie" and get out of that kind of life.

What can she do to become a smart cookie? Please, write a friendly letter to her giving her some ideas. Make sure that you write to her in a friendly manner.