# **ZAMASAMA PRESENTS**

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



Written by Nicola Rijsdijk Illustrated by Maya Marshak

# **THEMES**

Community

**Environment & Conservation** 

**Activism** 

**Community Engagement** 

**Resilience and Determination** 

**Women Empowerment** 

# **LEARNING OUTCOME**

- Understand why trees are important for our planet.
- See how learning and education can help us solve problems.
- Think about how working together helps protect nature.
- Feel inspired to lead and help others, just like Wangari did.

#### **LESSON PLAN**

#### **Discussion Questions**

# Before Reading:

- Have you ever planted something and watched it grow?
- · What was it?
- Why are trees important?
- Have you ever heard of someone who helped protect nature or planted trees?

## **During Reading:**

- What challenges did Wangari face in her life?
- How did she get other people to help her?

#### **After Reading:**

- How can one person make a difference for the environment?
- What can we do in our own school or town to protect nature?

#### **Activities:**

- Seed Planting Project Use biodegradable pots to plant seeds and watch them grow.
- Environmental Pledge Write one thing you promise to do for nature on a leaf-shaped cutout and stick it on a class tree wall.
- Role-Playing Act out parts of Wangari's story to understand how she led people and stayed strong.

#### **RELEVANT ZAMASAMA STORIES**

- <u>Luftan and Monsters</u> Community tackles pollution.
- Jadav and the Tree Place One man's forest mission.
- A Very Important Tree Celebrating the everyday value of trees.

#### **RELEVANT SDGS**

## Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 15: Life on Land

### **SDG Explanation**

- SDG 4 Wangari's pursuit of education enabled her to understand environmental issues and advocate for change.
- SDG 5 By mobilizing women to plant trees and take charge of their communities, Wangari promoted women's empowerment.
- SDG 13 Reforestation efforts directly addressed climate change.
- SDG 15 Tree planting helped restore ecosystems and biodiversity.

### **ABOUT ZAMASAMA**

Zamasama is a nonprofit platform that brings together stories from around the world to help children discover that beneath our differences—of culture, language, or belief—we share the same hopes, joys, and dreams.

Today's children are tomorrow's citizens, and the responsibility of building a more peaceful, tolerant, and empathetic world lies with them.

That's why it's vital to instill these values early—through stories that help them rise above the biases they inherit, and see diversity as a strength that unites us all.