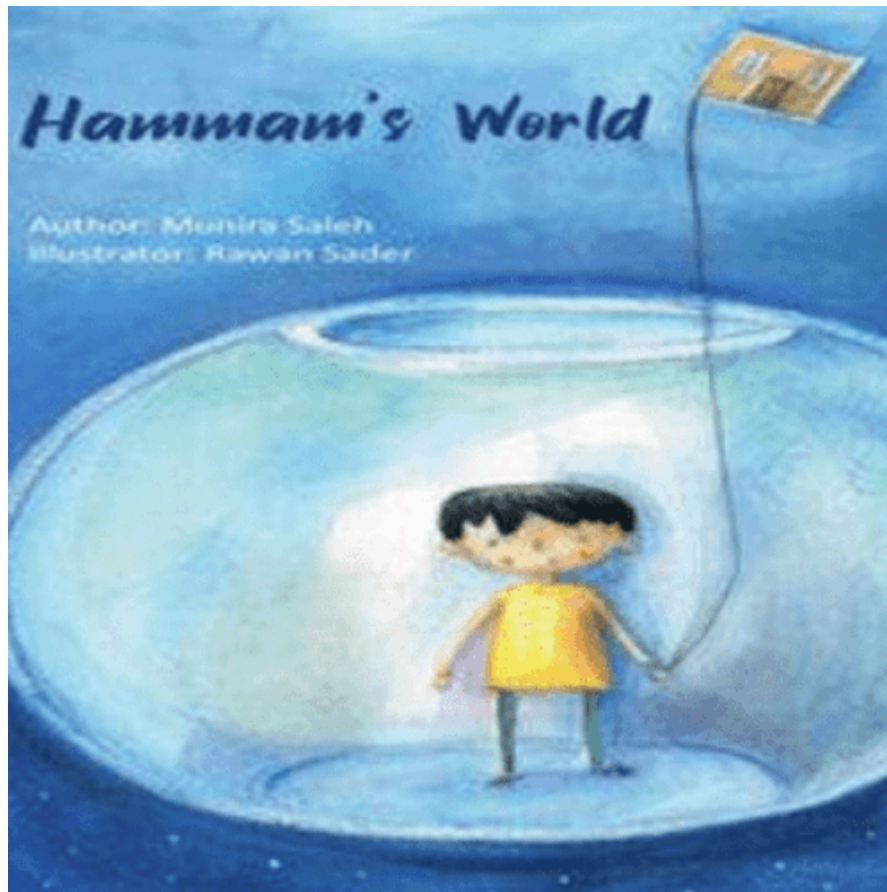


ZAMASAMA PRESENTS

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Displacement

Community

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

Hope & Healing

Migration and Belonging

LEARNING OUTCOME

Students will:

- Understand the emotional challenges faced by children displaced by conflict or disaster.
- Explore how memories and art can help children process grief and change.
- Identify ways communities can welcome and support newcomers.
- Reflect on empathy, resilience, and how to make others feel included.

LESSON PLAN

This lesson introduces the emotional journey of a displaced child through a symbolic and hopeful story. Students are encouraged to express their own memories through art, and to reflect on how they can support new classmates who may be feeling alone or different. Art and storytelling are used as tools for empathy and emotional resilience.

Discussion Questions

Before Reading:

- Have you ever had to move to a new place? How did you feel?
- What helps you feel better when you miss someone or something?
- Can pictures or drawings carry stories and feelings?

During Reading:

- Why does Hammam draw pictures of his old home?
- How do you think the drawings make him feel?
- What do you think the hoopoe bird is trying to do?

After Reading:

- What changed for Hammam by the end of the story?
- How did following the bird help him?
- What would you do to help someone like Hammam feel welcome?

Activities:

- Memory Drawing: Invite children to draw a picture of a place or person they miss. Let them explain why it is special.
- "Welcome to Our Class" Mural: Create a collaborative artwork where students include ideas and images that would make someone new feel welcome.
- About the Hoopoe: Explore the cultural significance of the hoopoe bird in the Middle East. How does it act as a guide in the story?
- Safe Spaces Journal: Students create small journals where they can draw or write about things that help them feel safe, happy, and connected.

RELEVANT ZAMASAMA STORIES

- Salma and the Orange Trees – A refugee girl uses imagination to reconnect with her homeland.
- The Artist – A boy processes migration and loss through creativity.
- Two Homes in Omar's Heart – A child navigates dual identities after displacement.
- Feng – A boy moves to a new country and slowly finds a sense of belonging through quiet observation and connection.

RELEVANT SDGS

Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG Explanation

- SDG 3: The story highlights mental and emotional wellbeing of displaced children.
- SDG 10: It raises awareness of the inequalities faced by refugee children in adapting to new lives.
- SDG 16: Promotes empathy, healing, and peace in the context of post-conflict displacement.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Children will recognize that sadness, longing, and isolation are natural feelings when life changes suddenly. They'll explore how art, memory, and gentle guidance can support healing and help build new friendships. The story reinforces Zamasama's central message: despite different journeys and homes, we all share one common humanity.

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.