# **ZAMASAMA PRESENTS**

### A Guide for Teachers and Parents



**Written by Deepa Balsavar** 

**Illustrated by Deepa Balsavar** 

## **THEMES**

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

**Culture & Tradition** 

Family & Friends

Community

Grandparents

Mindfulness & Observation

Imagination & Wonder in the Everyday

**Celebrating Local Spaces** 

### LEARNING OUTCOME

- Enhance their vocabulary by describing everyday sights.
- Reflect on the unique elements of their own neighborhoods..
- Develop observation, empathy, and imagination.

#### **LESSON PLAN**

This story uses Nani's walk to explore local surroundings, build descriptive language skills, and encourage curiosity and connection with community spaces.

#### **Discussion Questions**

#### **Before Reading:**

- Do you go on walks with your grandparents or parents?
- What do you notice when you go out in your neighborhood?

#### **During Reading:**

- What do you think the Lane of Beauty looks like?
- Why do you think Nani gave each lane a special name?
- What is your favorite stop on their walk?

#### **After Reading:**

- What would you name the streets or places near your home?
- Can you think of a special place in your neighborhood?
- Why is it important to notice small things around us?

#### **Activities:**

- Neighborhood Explorer Map: Students create a map of their neighborhood, naming streets and corners using imaginative names like Nani did.
- My Lane of... Booklet: Each child chooses one theme (beauty, kindness, friendship) and creates a small illustrated booklet of places or people that match that theme.
- Word Hunt from the Walk: Children pick 3–5 items from the illustrations and write descriptive sentences.
- Draw Nani's Favorite Spot: Based on the story, draw the stop you think Nani liked best.

#### RELEVANT ZAMASAMA STORIES

#### **RELEVANT SDGS**

#### Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

#### **SDG Explanation**

- SDG 4: Promotes observational skills, language development, and creative thinking.
- SDG 11: Encourages appreciation of local environments and fosters a sense of belonging in one's community.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- Children will come away with a greater appreciation for the everyday world around them whether peoples, animals places, and sights
- They will be more mindful and observant of their environments.
- They will also build descriptive language skills and empathy for older generations.

#### **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.