

ZAMASAMA PRESENTS

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Family & Friends

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

STEAM

LEARNING OUTCOME

Students will:

- Understand the value of friendship, empathy, and apologies.
- Explore basic concepts of bridge construction (beam bridges).
- Recognize the symbolic and emotional act of “building bridges” in relationships.
- Learn about real-world bridges including the living root bridges of Meghalaya.

LESSON PLAN

This story introduces the emotional ups and downs of friendship and the importance of making amends. The STEAM component allows students to channel this theme into action by building bridges—literally!

Discussion Questions

Before Reading:

- Have you ever had a disagreement with a friend? What helped you feel better?
- What does it mean to “build a bridge” between people?

During Reading:

- Have you ever had a disagreement with a friend? What helped you feel better?
- What does it mean to “build a bridge” between people?

After Reading:

- Why is saying “I’m sorry” important?
- What are other ways we can show someone we care?

Activities:

- STEAM: Build a Beam Bridge:
 - Using ice cream sticks or cardboard, build a simple beam bridge between two chairs/books.
 - Test what the bridge can hold—coins, erasers, or paper clips.
 - Compare with photos different kinds of bridges.
 - Discuss: Explore the innovative root bridges of Meghalaya. How do these bridges form over time? Who builds them?
- Roleplay:
 - Act out a situation where someone says something unkind and then finds a way to apologize.
- Bridge of Kindness Wall:
 - On each “plank,” write an act of kindness that helps keep friendships strong.

RELEVANT ZAMASAMA STORIES

- [The Sweetest Mango](#)
- [Mukand and Riaz](#)
- [Enemy Pie](#)

RELEVANT SDGS

Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 4 – Quality Education
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG Explanation

- SDG 4: Encourages creativity, problem-solving, and applied learning through the STEAM activity of building a bridge.
- SDG 16: Promotes peaceful conflict resolution, empathy, and rebuilding relationships after misunderstandings.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Children will learn to resolve conflict with empathy and creativity. They'll begin to see how every relationship can be repaired with effort and kindness—and that sometimes, a bridge is the perfect metaphor for a new beginning.

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.