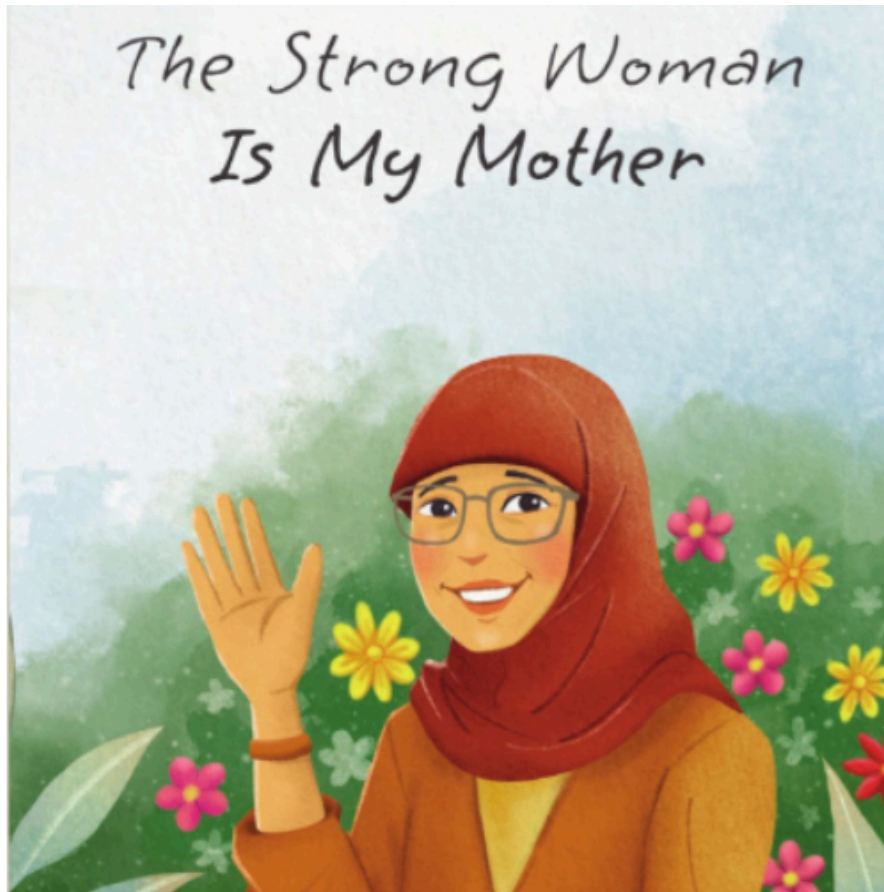


ZAMASAMA PRESENTS

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Biography

Family & Friends

Community

Women's Empowerment

Social Change

Determination

LEARNING OUTCOME

Children will:

- Understand the challenges and strengths of single-parent families.
- Learn the power of empathy and support within communities.
- Explore how one person’s initiative can spark social change.
- Reflect on gender roles and the importance of equality.
- Recognize that love and resilience create strong families, regardless of structure.

LESSON PLAN

This lesson encourages students to appreciate different family models and understand women’s contributions to both home and society. It promotes empathy, critical thinking, and the courage to defy stereotypes.

Discussion Questions

Before Reading:

- What struggles do single parents have to face?
- What is a changemaker?

During Reading:

- Pause when Zaki mentions the criticism his mother receives. Ask: How would you feel in his place?
- Note when Nani builds the organization. Ask: What does this tell us about her values?

After Reading:

- Why do you think Nani started PEKKA?
- How did Zaki’s view of his mother shape the story?
- What do you admire most about Nani?

Activities:

- Letter of Appreciation – Write a note to a caregiver or role model in your life.
- Family Map – Draw or describe your family and what makes it strong.
- Changemaker Spotlight – Research and present another woman who started an organization to help others.
- Empathy Circle – In groups, discuss how we can support classmates with different family backgrounds.
- Mother’s Day Poster – Create a poster about women who lead with love and courage.

RELEVANT ZAMASAMA STORIES

- [Sindiwe and the Fireflies](#)
- [A Friend for All](#)
- [Zanele Situ](#)
- [Rent Party, Jazz](#)

RELEVANT SDGS

Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 1: No Poverty
- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

SDG Explanation

- SDG 1 & 10: Nani's organization empowers women-headed households to break cycles of poverty and inequality.
- SDG 5: The story promotes gender equality by challenging traditional norms and showcasing female leadership.
- SDG 16: PEKKA supports justice and stronger community systems through grassroots advocacy for women's rights.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Students will learn to celebrate diversity in family structures.
- They will develop empathy for children from single-parent households.
- They will see how everyday resilience and values can drive social change.
- They will internalize the message: You don't need power to create impact — love and belief are enough.
- Students begin to understand the importance of inclusive, gender-equal societies.

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.