

# Save the Princess

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



Written by Nguyễn Trần Thiên Lộc

Illustrated by Phạm Thu Thùy

## THEMES

Family & Friends

SEL

Humor Challenging gender  
stereotypes

Supportive friendships

Power of role-play  
and imagination

Emotional inclusion  
(normalizing fear)

# Story Discussion Guide

- Understand the impact of homelessness on children.
- Recognize global housing insecurity and its effect on education.
- Reflect on social exclusion and bullying due to poverty.
- Cultivate empathy and respect for all peers.
- Inspire strength and hope in children facing hardship.

## LESSON PLAN

A joyful session filled with laughter, role-play, imaginative thinking, and deeper exploration of courage, stereotypes, and friendship.

## Full Lesson Plan

### Warm-Up Questions :

1. What games do you enjoy playing with your friends?
2. Have you ever played pretend? What roles did you choose?
3. Do you think princesses always need rescuing? Why or why not?

### During Reading:

1. What makes this scene funny?
2. How does the princess help the soldier?
3. What emotions is the boy feeling at each moment?
4. What is brave about the girl's actions?

### After Reading:

1. What did you find funniest in the story?
2. How did the girl challenge the usual "princess" role?
3. Why do you think role-play is fun?
4. How did the boy show courage even when scared?
5. How did both friends help each other?

## Activities:

### 1. Funny Role Reversal Skits

Pairs create their own “reverse” rescue scenes — princess rescues dragon, boy rescues alien, etc.

### 2. My Imagination Map

Children draw 4 pretend worlds they would love to explore.

### 3. Courage Through Laughter

Children list things that scare them and then draw funny versions of those fears.

### 4. Teamwork Tower

Groups use blocks to build a “rescue tower.”

## OUTCOME

Children will be able to:

- 1.. Recognize that girls and boys can be brave, scared, or strong in different ways.
2. Describe how role-play helps children explore emotions and possibilities.
3. Understand that asking for help is okay, and helping a friend is an act of courage.
4. Understand that humor has universal appeal and is a powerful tool for learning, connection, and easing fears.

## Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 5 — Gender Equality
- SDG 4 — Quality Education (SEL)
- SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities (emotional inclusion)

# SDG Explanation

## SDG 5 – Gender Equality

The “princess” is the brave, capable one – flipping traditional roles. Children see girls as strong problem-solvers and helpers.

## SDG 4 – Quality Education

The story strengthens SEL skills: courage, empathy, cooperation, emotional expression.

## SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

Fear is treated gently and without shame; everyone is allowed to learn and grow at their own pace.

- It gently breaks stereotypes in a fun, non-preachy way.
- It celebrates humor, which is universal and child-friendly.
- It shows the power of imaginative play, which builds creativity, empathy, and social intelligence.
- It models support, not teasing, when someone is afraid.
- It promotes pluralism in daily life – treating emotions, strengths, and roles as flexible and shared by all genders.

## Expected Outcomes

Children learn that:

- Humor can help us overcome fears.
- Friends support one another.
- Gender does not decide who is brave.
- Role-play helps understand emotions.
- We all share one common humanity.

# Curriculum Ladder:

Age 5–8:

Langutani's Trick – A humorous solution to dealing with marauding monkeys  
Don't Wake the Baby: Two siblings learn a lesson on being mindful of a baby's needs.  
Ismat's Eid: Sometimes love and caring can lead to humorous situations

Ages 8 -10:

Enemy Pie: Can a perceived enemy ever become a friend?  
Here Comes the Garbage Barge: A humorous approach to the issue of disposal of Polluting Garbage.

## IB Units of Inquiry

- Who We Are
- How We Express Ourselves
- Sharing the Planet



## SEO Section

Meta Title: A humorous children's story about imagination, courage, and breaking stereotypes

Meta Description: A light-hearted picture book where a brave princess helps her scared friend.

## 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.

