

Luftan and Monsters

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

On Land & in Seas

Health & Wellbeing

Biography

Community

Environment & Conservation

SUB-THEMES

Youth Leadership

Plastic Pollution

Civic Responsibility

Waterway Restoration

Story Discussion Guide

- Understand the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (3Rs).
- Learn how youth-led action can bring real change.
- Explore the impact of plastic pollution on land and water.
- Recognize how teamwork and civic action can improve their own surroundings.

Lesson plan

Use Luftan's story as a launchpad to discuss trash, pollution, and how students can lead cleanup or upcycling efforts in their schools or neighborhoods.

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- What kinds of trash do you see around your school or home?
- Why do you think trash is a problem?

During Reading :

- What did Luftan see in his village that others ignored?
- How did he get others involved?
- What actions did they take together?

After Reading-

- What was your favorite part of Luftan's plan?
- What would you do if your town had trash monsters?
- Can one child really make a difference?

Activities:

- Trash Audit: Have students sort collected trash into recyclable, compostable, and landfill categories.
- Trash Monster Art: Create trash monsters from actual clean waste materials for display in the school art section
- Neighborhood Heroes: Start a classroom campaign to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle with posters, talks, and action days.

Expected Outcomes

Students will be inspired to take ownership of their environment, understand the urgency of pollution, and take small but meaningful action in their communities

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13 – Climate Action SDG 14 – Life Below Water

SDG Explanation

- SDG 12: The story models how reducing waste and reusing items can build a sustainable community.
- SDG 13: Community-led action on waste contributes to climate solutions.
- SDG 14: By cleaning up the river, the children protect aquatic ecosystems from plastic pollution.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences. Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.