

Nani's Walk to the Park

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



Written by Deepa Balsavar

Illustrated by Deepa Balsavar

THEMES

Social & Emotional Wellbeing

Culture & Tradition

Family & Friends

SUB-THEMES

Intergenerational Bonding

Mindfulness & Observation

Imagination & Creativity

Celebrating Local Spaces

Story Discussion Guide

- 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

Learning Outcome

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.

Expected Outcomes

Children will develop environmental awareness, empathy for their surroundings, and the ability to tell stories using images, actions, and imagination.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 15: Life on Land

SDG Explanation

- SDG 3: Encourages emotional well-being and positive self-image.
- SDG 5: Challenges appearance-based biases, especially those impacting boys and girls differently
- SDG 10: Promotes self-acceptance and celebrates diversity in appearance and identity

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.