

Education Resources on Refugees, Muslim People and Anti-Muslim Bigotry



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There are 1.8 billion Muslim people worldwide and Islam is currently the second largest religion in the world next to Christianity. Despite the fact that there are so many Muslims in the world, in many places there is a lack of understanding about Muslim people. In addition, anti-Muslim bigotry is manifesting in personal biases, stereotyping, microaggressions, identity-based bullying, biased rhetoric, hate crimes and more.

The following education resources include lesson plans, children's books, teaching tips and strategies, discussion guides for parents/family members and

civil rights resources to help educators and others address the topics of Muslim people, anti-Muslim bigotry and refugees with young people.

Lesson Plans

LESSON PLAN

Anti-Muslim Bigotry and Being an Ally

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

Middle and high school students explore the connection between anti-Muslim acts of bigotry and the misunderstandings and stereotypes about Muslim people, and identify ways they can be allies in the face of bias and discrimination.



Shazron / CC BY 2.0

LESSON PLAN

Identity-Based Bullying

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL

This lesson plan helps elementary and middle school students define and understand identity-based bullying and explore potential solutions.





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LESSON PLAN

Refugee Crisis in Europe: How Should the World Respond?

HIGH SCHOOL

Students have the opportunity to learn about the refugee crisis through reading and viewing photographic images and exploring what nations around the world are doing in response to the crisis and what they can do to help.



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LESSON PLAN

The 'Muslim Ban' and the Power of Protest

Teach students about the "Muslim ban" executive order. Gain insight into people's thoughts through posted hashtags, reactions of protestors and reflect on their own point of view on the topic by writing an op-ed.



Rhododendrites / CC BY-SA 4.0

LESSON PLAN

Terrorist Attack in Paris and Scapegoating

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

Use this lesson to teach students about the Paris attacks and understand the ways in which Muslim people and Syrian refugees are being scapegoated as a result of the terrorist attacks.





Freedom House/Flickr

LESSON PLAN

We Were Strangers Too: Learning about Refugees through Art

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

This lesson uses artwork produced by artists all over the world to help middle and high school students deepen their understanding of the refugee crisis and promote empathy for what it means to be a “stranger.”



Artist: Karl Tani

LESSON PLAN

Who are the Rohingya People in Myanmar?

Students have an opportunity to learn about and develop empathy for the plight of the Rohingya people in Myanmar and explore what can be done about the crisis, which is being called a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing."



Seyyed Mahmoud Hosseini, Tasnim News Agency/CC BY 4.0

LESSON PLAN

Who is Malala Yousafzai?

MIDDLE SCHOOL

This lesson provides an opportunity for students to learn about Malala Yousafzai, why she won the Nobel Peace Prize and to explore activism projects to address areas of injustice they see in the world.





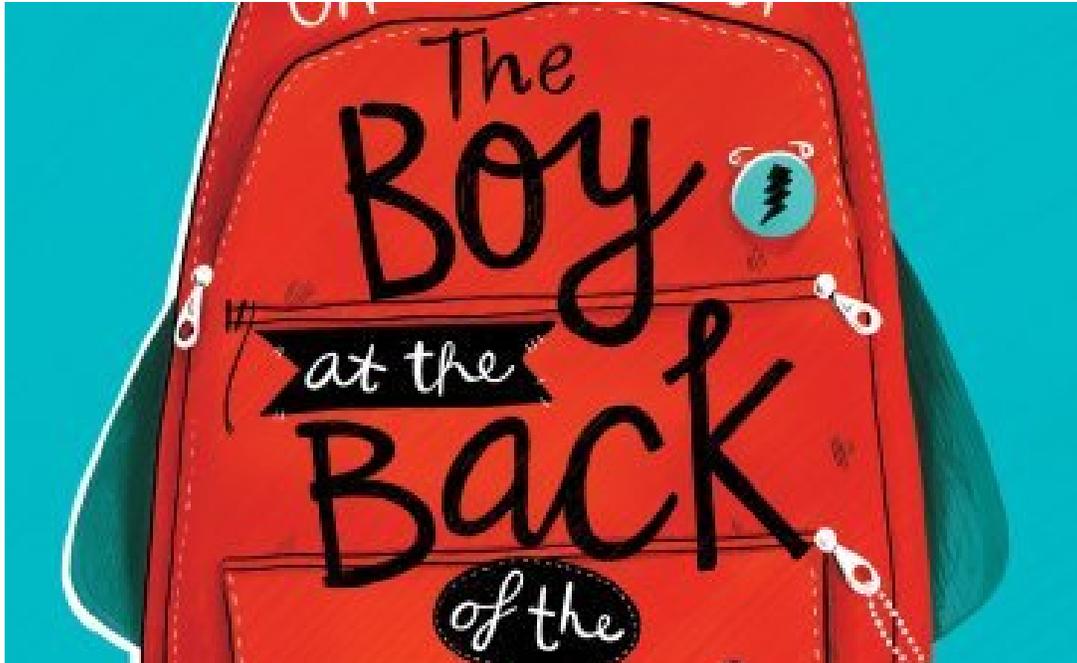
Russell Watkins/Department for International Development

Resources for Educators, Parents and Family Members

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The Boy at the Back of the Class

This story about the refugee crisis highlights the community-changing potential of standing as an ally and reminds readers that everyone deserves a place to call home.



TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

6 Ways to Be an Ally (en Español)

Six simple things youth can do to be an ally to targets of name-calling and bullying.





TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Empowering Young People in the Aftermath of Hate (In English and en Español)

Tools, tips and strategies for what educators and family members can do to help young people discuss and deal with the aftermath of hate-inspired events.



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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Helping Students Make Sense of News Stories about Bias and Injustice

When there are national news stories that involve incidents of bias and injustice, young people want to be part of the conversation.





Loavesofbread

TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Islamophobia and Being an Ally

In the wake of terrorist attacks and ISIS, here are tips and strategies for parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about Muslims, islamophobia and being an ally.

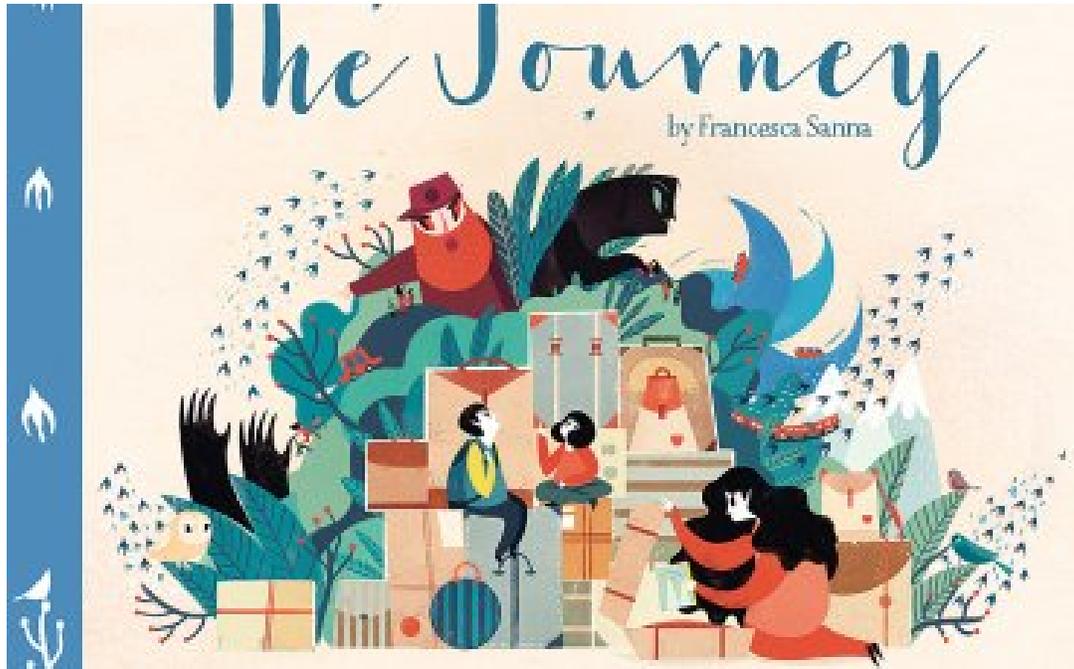


Omar Chatriwala/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The Journey

This book is told from the perspective of a young child and explores the unimaginable decisions made as a family leave their home and everything they know to escape the turmoil and tragedy brought by war.



TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Myths and Facts about Muslim People and Islam

This resource dispels stereotypes and myths about Muslim people and Islam, suggest ways that educators can address these important topics in the classroom and provide relevant key words and definitions.



Nice, France and Our Response to Terrorist Attacks

Have a parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about the 2016 attacks in Nice, France and understanding the complexities around incidents of terrorism.



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BLOG

Teachable Moments Abound in Khizr Khan's Convention Speech

On the final night at the Democratic National Convention, a Muslim American couple named Khizr and Ghazala Khan came to the stage and delivered a patriotic speech ab...

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Under My Hijab

As a young girl observes six very different women in her life who each wear the hijab in a unique way, she also dreams of the rich possibilities of her own future, and how she will express her own personality through her hijab.





CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Refugee

Josef, Isabel and Mahmoud all go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. Although they are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.



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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Refugees, Reactions and World Response

Refugees from Syria have been leaving their homes in search of safety and assistance. Use these tips and strategies to have family conversations with youth about the

refugee crisis.



iStock

BLOG

The Ripple Effect of Interfaith Dialogue

Recent incidents around the world remind us of the power of hate and vitriol to permeate our religious, cultural and national borders. ISIS continues to expand its alliances and ...

BLOG

What Ahmed Mohamed Can Teach Us About Having 'A Wrong Impression'

On Monday, Ahmed Mohamed, a fourteen year old high school freshman with a talent for tinkering and technology, brought a homemade digital clock he constructed to sch...

TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

What is the 'Muslim Ban'?

Use this discussion guide to have a parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about President Trump's ban on foreign nationals into the U.S.





Civil Rights Resources

BACKGROUNDERS

Anti-Muslim Bigotry

ADL's role in fighting Islamophobia.

ARTICLE

Welcoming the Stranger: ADL's Commitment to Protecting Refugees

The Refugee Crisis With sixty million people forcibly displaced from their homes, today the world faces the worst refugee crisis since World War II. Around the world, one in every...