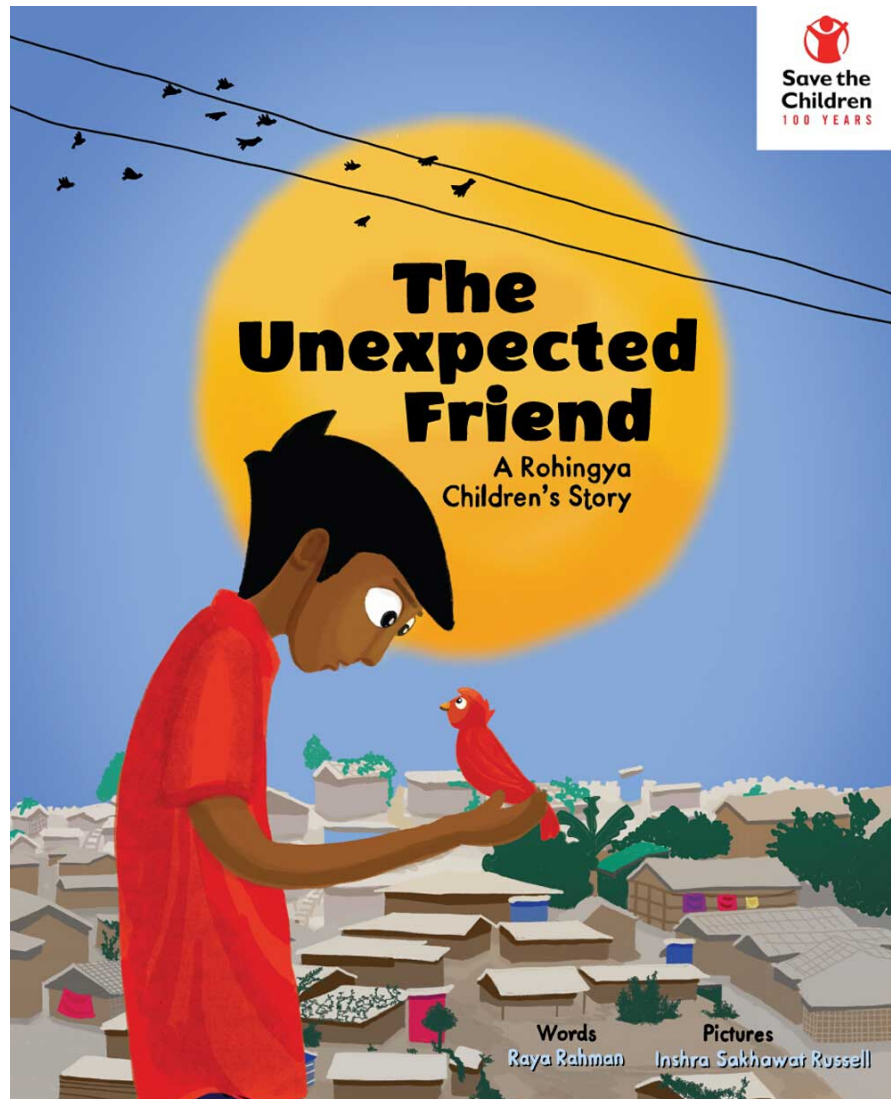


Exploring Themes in Picture Books



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The Unexpected Friend - A Rohingya Children's Story

What is the story about?



This story is fictional but based on the lives of real children living in a refugee camp in Bangladesh. A young boy from the camp called Faisal finds an injured bird and decides to care for it with his sisters. But life in the camp is not easy, so Faisal is helped by his family and friends to heal the bird and eventually set it free.

What is a Refugee Camp?



Refugee camps are temporary facilities built to provide protection and assistance to people who have been forced to flee a dangerous situation in their own country. People arriving at these camps can receive medical treatment, food, shelter, and other basic services.

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What does refugee mean?



Refugees are people who are seeking a safe place to stay after being forced to escape violence, persecution (unfair and bad treatment), war or natural disasters.



Many refugees bring little with them and are dependent on humanitarian aid for shelter, food, clothing, and healthcare.

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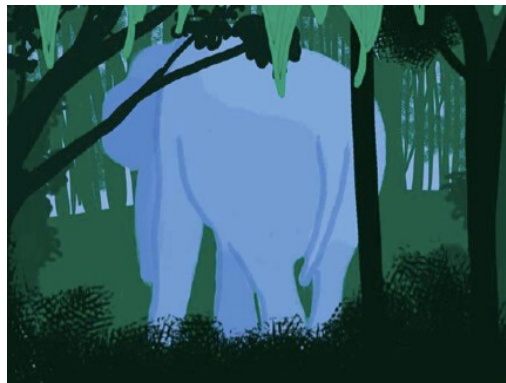
A different kind of life

Children usually have to work or help their parents with everyday chores in a refugee camp. Many are expected to act older than their age.



Some camps have temporary learning centers where children can socialize, learn and play. These spaces are much loved and needed. There, kids can be kids!

Animals can also lose their homes when forests are cleared by humans for their own needs. This is called **deforestation**. It is a major environmental problem faced by our planet.



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Where is Bangladesh and Myanmar?



Bangladesh is a country in South Asia. It is one of the world's most densely populated countries. The official language is Bengali.

Myanmar is a country in Southeast Asia. It is also known as Burma and the official language is Burmese. Rohingya people from Myanmar fled to neighboring Bangladesh by boat or on foot due to violence faced in their own country.

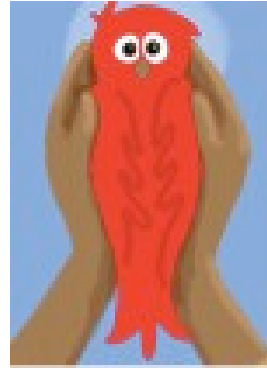
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Taking care of each other

Empathy is a big theme of this story . It means the ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes in order to feel what they are feeling.



Having empathy for someone else will usually spur us into action. We may choose to be kind to someone we have empathy for.

Being kind is an important part of being human!



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