

## Books on the Refugee Crisis

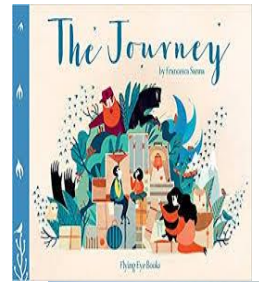
### Fiction:

#### ***The Journey* by Francesca Sanna**

Grades K - 3

A picture book which tells the story of a mother and daughter forced to leave their home.

- Teacher Resources:
    - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=51301>
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#### ***Teacup* by Rebecca Young, illustrated by Matt Ottley**

Grades Pre K - 3

The story of a boy who searches for a new home.

- Teacher Resources:
    - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=52349>
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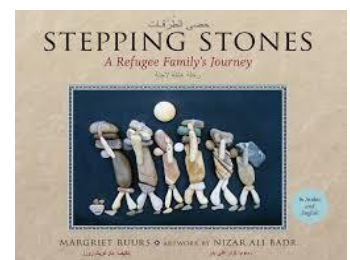


#### ***Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey* by Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Nizar Ali Badr**

Grades K - 2

The story of Rama and her family who are forced to leave their war-torn village.

- Teacher Resources:
    - <http://www.lamontbooks.com.au/media/93184/april-2017-ps-stepping-stones.pdf>
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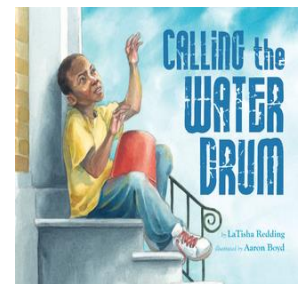


#### ***Calling the Water Drum* by LaTisha Redding, illustrated by Aaron Boyd**

Grades K - 3

Henri and his family set out on a rickety boat from Haiti to America.

- Teacher Resources:
    - [https://www.leeandlow.com/books/calling-the-water-drum/teachers\\_guide](https://www.leeandlow.com/books/calling-the-water-drum/teachers_guide)
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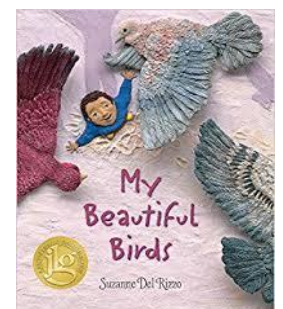


#### ***My Beautiful Birds* by Suzanne Del Rizzo**

Grades 1 - 4

Sami is living in war-torn Syria, and his whole neighborhood decides to travel on foot to the nearest refugee camp outside of Syria.

- Teacher Resources:
    - [http://pajamapress.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/MyBeautifulBirds\\_ReadingGuide.pdf](http://pajamapress.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/MyBeautifulBirds_ReadingGuide.pdf)
- 



***One Good Thing About America* by Ruth Freedman, illustrated by Katherin Honesta**  
Grades 3 - 7

The story of an African refugee girl learning to adjust to life in America.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=54904>

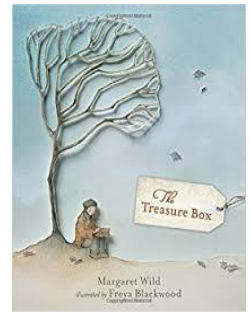


***The Treasure Box* by Margaret Wild, illustrated by Freya Blackwood**

Grades K - 3

The story of a refugee family who take their precious gems in a treasure box with them before they leave.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=42741>

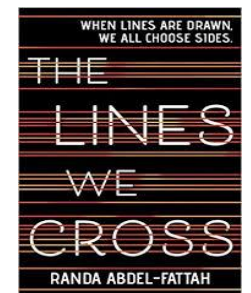


***The Lines We Cross* by Randa Abdel- Fattah**

Grade 5+

Michael has to decide where his beliefs lie when he befriends a refugee girl, despite being raised conservatively and anti-immigration by his parents.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=56117>

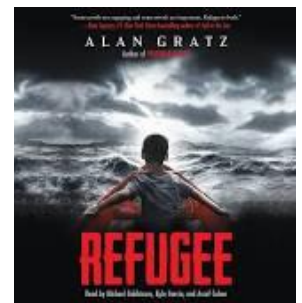


***Refugee* by Alan Gratz**

Grades 5 - 9

The stories of three Refugee children from different places during different times in history.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plans/17-18/refugee-discussion-guide/>
  - <https://www.alangratz.com/writing/refugee/refugee-discussion-guide/>



***Lost and Found Cat* by Doug Kuntz, Amy Schrodes, illustrated by Sue Cornelison**

Grades Pre K - 3

The story of an Iraqi refugee family forced to leave their home for Greece, but can't bear to part with their beloved cat.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://lrsjcommittee.weebly.com/lost-and-found-cat.html>



### ***Escape from Aleppo* by N.H. Senzai**

Grades 4 - 8

Nadia and her family are forced to leave their home in Syria on her twelfth birthday.

- Teacher Resources:
    - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=55261>
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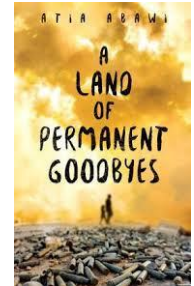


### ***A Land of Permanent Goodbyes* by Atia Abawi**

Grade 7- 12

Tareq must leave his home when it is torn apart by war and bombs.

- Teacher Resources:
    - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=56120>
- 



## **Fiction:**

### ***Nowhere Boy* by Katharine Marsh**

Grades 6 - 12

A young boy escapes Syria, only to lose his dad while seeking a better life in Europe. Just when he thinks he's at his lowest point, he meets another young boy and they begin a beautiful friendship together while facing tough times as refugees.

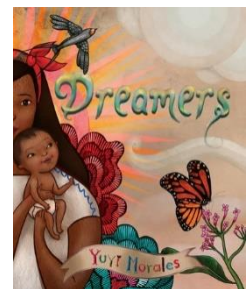
- Teacher Resources:
    - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=60364>
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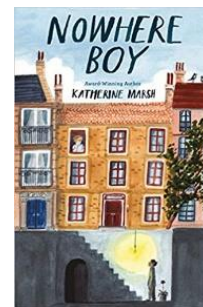
### ***Dreamers* by Yuyi Morales**

Grades Pre K - 3

The book *Dreamers* is a celebration of what migrants bring with them when they leave their homes. Young mother Yuyi and her son left their home in Mexico to embark on a trip to America. In her endeavor, readers learn that “we are all dreamers, bringing our own gifts wherever we roam.”

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?aid=2481>





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### ***Four Feet, Two Sandals* by Karen L. Williams**

Grades 2 - 5

Two girls, both living in a Pakistani camp as refugees, find one shoe in a pair of sandals, and they're both upset that they only have one of the two shoes. Soon, the two girls, Lina and Feroza meet and decide to share the shoes instead of each keeping one of them. As they go along their days in the camp, this story teaches young readers about what it was like living as a refugee.

Teacher Resources:

- [https://www.eerdmans.com/Common/Redesign\\_PDF/9780802852960\\_discussionguide.pdf](https://www.eerdmans.com/Common/Redesign_PDF/9780802852960_discussionguide.pdf)

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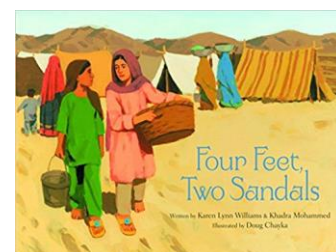
### ***How I Learned Geography* by Uri Shulevitz**

Grades 1 - 3

Having fled from war in their troubled homeland, a boy and his family are living in poverty in a strange country. Food is scarce, so when the boy's father brings home a map instead of bread for supper, at first the boy is furious. But when the map is hung on the wall, it floods their cheerless room with color. As the boy studies its every detail, he is transported to exotic places without ever leaving the room, and he eventually comes to realize that the map feeds him in a way that bread never could.

• Teacher Resources:

- [http://www.socstrpr.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/06481\\_no15.pdf](http://www.socstrpr.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/06481_no15.pdf)



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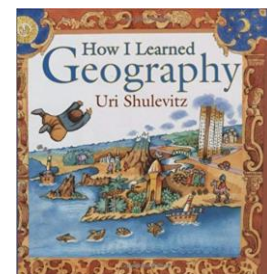
### ***Journey Home* by Deborah J. Short**

Grades 3 - 7

Excited to be journeying to Vietnam, where she and her mother hope to find the birth family that gave her mother up for adoption, ten-year-old Mai struggles for patience as they track down an old man who remembers her.

• Teacher Resources:

- <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=3680>



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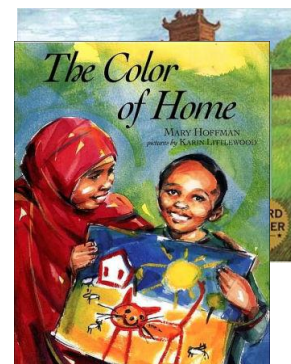
### ***The Colour of Home* by Marry Hoffman**

Grades K - 3

Hassan feels out of place in a new cold, grey country. At school, he paints a picture showing his colorful Somali home, covered with the harsh colors of war from which his family has fled. He tells his teacher about their voyage from Mogadishu to Mombasa, then to the refugee camp and on to England. But gradually things change. When Hassan's parents put up his next picture on the wall, Hassan notices the maroon prayer mat, a bright green cushion and his sister Naima's pink dress - the new colors of home.

• Teacher Resources:

- <https://www.teachervision.com/multicultural-literature/color-home>

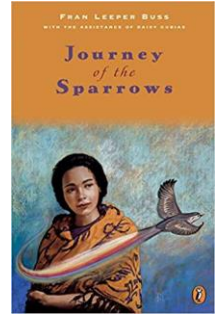


### ***Journey of the Sparrows* by Fran Leeper Buss**

Grades 4 - 8

The story of a young family's trek to America from El Salvador. Five young children are shoved in the back of a ship, forced to clean, sew, wash dishes, etc, on their way to Chicago.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=journey--sparrows-test>



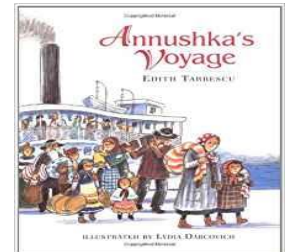
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### ***Annushka's Voyage* by Edith Tarbescu**

Grades K - 4

A story about two young Russian girls who leave their family to start a new life in New York with their father.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=10032>



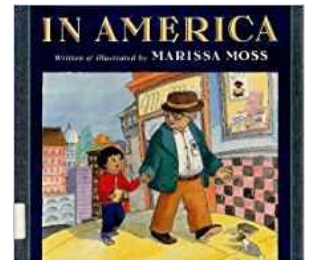
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### ***In America* by Marissa Moss**

Grades 1 - 4

A story about a young boy, Walter, and the stories he learns throughout his grandfather's journey of escaping Lithuania to come to America.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=29812>



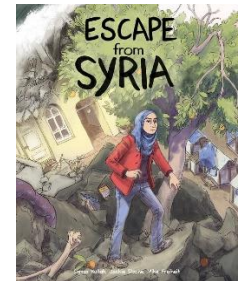
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### ***Escape from Syria* by Samya Kullab, illustrated by Jackie Roche**

Grades 7 - 12

Amanita is one of millions of people affected by the ongoing Syrian conflict. Following a vicious attack in their home neighborhood, the teen and her family struggle to find normalcy amid the political chaos. They join the ranks of refugees fleeing for survival, traveling through Syria, Lebanon, and ultimately Canada.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=59249>



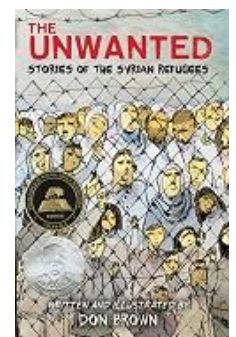
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### ***The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees* by Don Brown**

Grades 7 - 12

In tradition of Don Brown's critically acclaimed, full color nonfiction graphic novels, *The Unwanted* is an important, timely, and eye-opening exploration of the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis, exposing the harsh realities of living in, and trying to escape, a war-torn Syria in Exodus-like proportions. The surprising flood of victims overwhelms neighboring countries, and chaos follows. Resentment in host nations heightens as disruption and the cost of aid grows. By 2017, many want to turn their backs on the victims.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=60178>



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### **Yara, My Friend From Syria by Alhan Rahimi**

Grades Pre K - 2

It is a regular Monday morning in Oliver's classroom, until there is a knock on the door. The principal brings in a new student. Her name is Yara, and she is from Syria. Little by little Oliver and his classmates get to know Yara, and although she is shy, they soon learn that she can speak three languages. This story highlights the important role that a child's peers play in the process of assimilating a new experience in the process of assimilating into a new experience and home.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=55189>

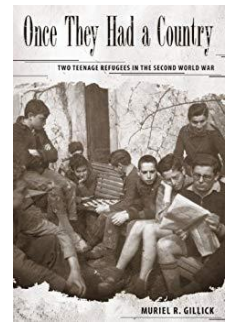


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### **Once They Had a Country: Two Teenage Refugees in the Second World War by Muriel R. Gillick**

Grades 9 -11

Gillick uses historical artifacts to weave a compelling narrative of two teen refugees – her own parents – during WW2.



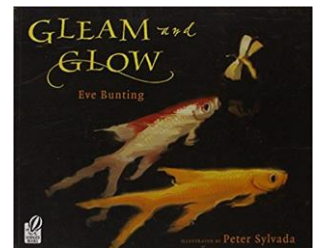
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### **Gleam and Glow by Eve Bunting**

Grades Pre K - 2

Inspired by real events, master storyteller Eve Bunting recounts the harrowing yet hopeful story of a family, a war--and a dazzling discovery.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://bookpagez.com/resource/gleam-and-glow-lesson-plans/>



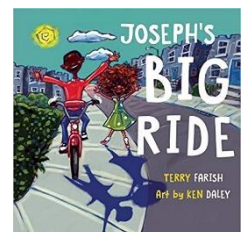
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### **Joseph's Big Ride by Terry Farish**

Grades Pre K - 2

A Refugee Boy's determination to ride a bike leads him to an unexpected friendship during his journey to America

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=51253>

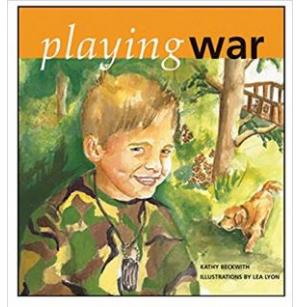


### ***Playing War* by Kathy Beckwith**

Grades 1 - 4

A group of five children (four boys and a girl) decide, one summer day, to play "war" with pine cones for bombs, and sticks for guns. One boy, who has recently come to the United States from another (unnamed) country, starts to play but decides to go home when his friend Luke declares, "I'm going to blow their heads off."

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=5459>



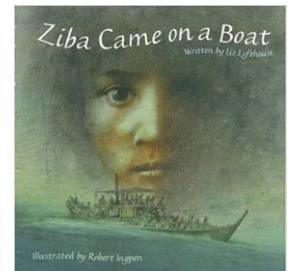
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### ***Ziba Came on a Boat* by Liz Lofthouse**

Grades 1 - 4

Ziba Came On a Boat is the moving story of a little girl whose family has lost almost everything. This beautiful picture book takes us on her brave journey to make a new life, far from home.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=13233>



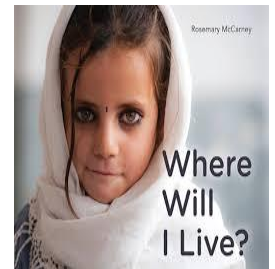
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## **Nonfiction:**

### ***Where Will I Live?* by Rosemary McCarny**

Grades K - 3

A collection of photographs of young refugee children.



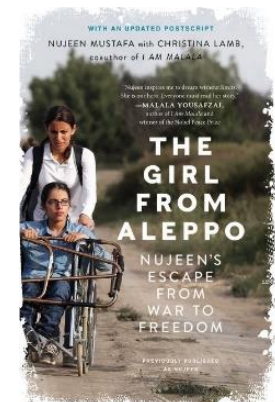
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### ***The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom* by Nujeen Mustafa and Christina Lamb**

Grades 7 - 12

Prize-winning journalist and co-author of smash New York Times bestseller *I Am Malala*, Christina Lamb, now tells the story of another remarkable hero: Nujeen Mustafa, a teenager born with cerebral palsy, whose harrowing journey from war-ravaged Syria to Germany in a wheelchair is a breathtaking tale of fortitude, grit, and hope that lends a face to the greatest humanitarian issue of our time, the Syrian refugee crisis.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=61662>

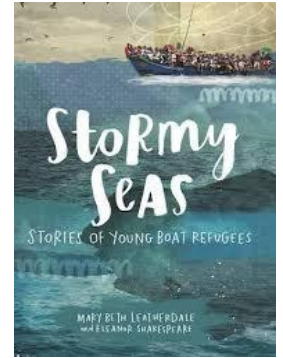


***Stormy Seas: Stories of Young Boat Refugees* by Mary Beth Leatherdale, illustrated by Eleanor Shakespeare**

Grades 4 - 8

Five true stories of refugee children from around the world and at different points in history.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=55617>

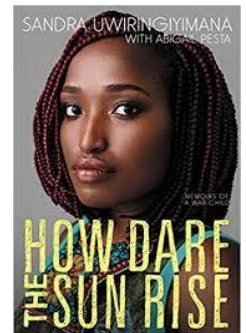


***How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child* by Sandra Uwiringiyimana and Abigail Pesta**

Grades 7 - 12

Memoirs of Sandra Uwiringiyimana's experiences in war torn Congo and her family's decision to leave.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=55034>

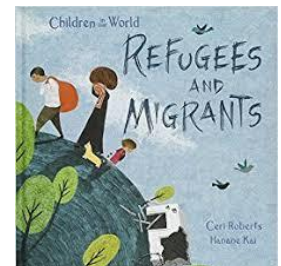


***Refugees and Migrants (Children in our World)* by Ceri Roberts, illustrated by Hanane Kai**

Grades 2 - 5

A nonfiction picture book account of the refugee crisis around the world.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/teaching-about-refugees.html>

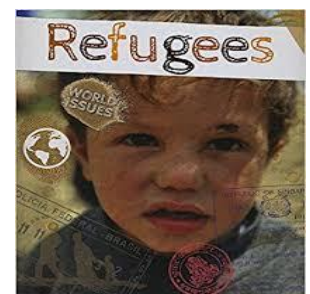


***Refugees (World Issues)* by Harriet Brundle**

Grades 2 - 5

A case study of refugees around the world.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/childrens/childrens-book-news/article/74218-children-s-books-exploring-the-refugee-crisis.html>



***A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea* by Melissa Fleming**

Grades 7 - 12

Chronicles the life of Doaa, a Syrian girl whose life was upended in 2011 by the onset of her country's brutal civil war; extremely powerful.

- Teacher Resources:
  - <https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=57340>

