

The Refugee Doll Project - Curriculum © 2019

Books and Lesson Plans (K-2)

Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey by Margriet Ruurs

Gist:

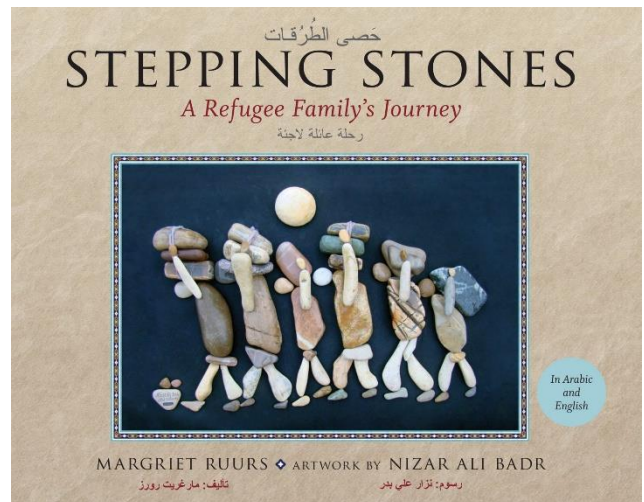
- ◆ Illustrated with photographs of pictures made from stones, this powerful book tells the story of a family affected by the Syrian civil war. It tells the story of Sami, Papa, Mama, Jedo, and Rama (the narrator) who are forced to leave behind everything they know and love. With only what they can carry on their backs, Rama's family sets out to find refuge in Europe. They walk until they reach the sea, where they set sail on a raft to a land of peace. After a long and perilous journey, they meet neighbors who welcome them with smiles and with sharing of food, clothes—and a new doll!

Enduring Understanding:

- ◆ People want to be free and safe.
- ◆ Life can change quickly.
- ◆ War is something no child should endure.
- ◆ Families have happy times and sad times.

Concepts:

- ◆ Refugee
- ◆ Immigrant
- ◆ War
- ◆ Welcoming



Activities:

- ◆ Teach lesson: *I'm New Here*. Complete exercises on being new, being different, and how-to-be-welcoming.
http://refugeedolls.org/pdf/im_new_here_welcoming_event_kit.pdf
- ◆ Teach lesson: *I live in a family*. Arab World Mosaic: A Curriculum Supplement for Elementary Teachers, p. 23. Students identify their own roles as family members.
www.arabamericanmuseum.org/publications.id.36.htm
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Happy Times, Sad Times*. Arab World Mosaic: A Curriculum Supplement for Elementary Teachers, p. 29. Students explore how families meet needs, express emotions, and cope with problems.
www.arabamericanmuseum.org/publications.id.36.htm

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- ◆ Teach lesson: *Reimagine Syria: Sharing our Stories. Educator Guide*. Five lessons using NY Times as text. A new model using classes and videoconferencing. Students examine impact of Syrian crisis on lives of youngsters.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/26/learning/lesson-plans/examining-how-the-syrian-crisis-has-shaped-the-lives-of-young-refugees-a-guest-lesson-plan.html?>
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Songs for Syria*. A 15-minute assembly presentation. (Ages 7-11). Captions for PowerPoint slides, which explain the situation in Syria through the exploration of songs.
www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/songs-syria-presentation
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Songs for Syria*. An assembly presentation. This PowerPoint presentation accompanies the Songs for Syria assembly.
www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/songs-syria-assembly-presentation
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Teaching About the Syrian Refugee Crisis* from IAmSyria.org.
www.iamsyria.org/teaching-about-the-refugee-crisis-and-making-a-difference.html
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Refugee Week 2017: Shared Future Teaching Resource* (14-16). A suite of five, 30-minute activities. <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/refugee-week-2017-our-shared-future>
- ◆ Teach lessons: *Seeking Safety; Time to Flee; Against all Odds*: Educational online game with teacher's guide; *Over Under Sideways Down*, a comic book that describes refugee flight of Ebrahim;
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/education/2015/10/8-educational-resources-to-better-understand-the-refugee-crisis/>
- ◆ Teach lesson: *Israa's Story*. To compare and contrast children's lives in the West with children who live in countries that are in conflict. Israa is a 13-year-old Syrian girl.
www.actionaid.org.uk/schools
- ◆ Show video: *What is it like to have no home?*
www.imyourneighborbooks.org/2016/12/15/3078
- ◆ Show short animated documentaries: *Malak and the Boat*
www.amnesty.org/en/latest/education/2016/03/seven-free-short-films-about-refugees-recommended-by-human-rights-educators
- ◆ Facilitate performance: *Look how we move!* (11 years and under) Kinesthetic activity. Moving around a floor-based map to show migration of refugees.
www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2015/may/25/how-to-teach-refugees
- ◆ Access *I'm Your Neighbor Books*, an online listing of refugee books categorized by theme, setting, and student age. (Grades K-12). Use search term "Syria" and "refugee" to find relevant books.
www.imyourneighborbooks.org