

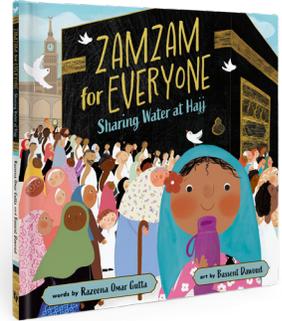


A Barefoot  
Discussion  
Guide

## Zamzam for Everyone Discussion Guide

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Mariam is experiencing Hajj for the first time and she feels “excitement and awe”. What new experiences have made you feel this way?
2. Mariam meets people from all over the world during Hajj. What are some ways people can be different from one another? What are some ways we can still connect even when we speak different languages?
3. Mama tells Mariam that Hajj is a time to do good, so Mariam tries to share Zamzam – blessed water from an ancient well – with everyone she meets. What is a good deed you have done for someone else?
4. Hajj takes place in and around the city of Makkah, Saudi Arabia which is located in a desert valley, and it involves lots of walking. How do you think the other pilgrims feel when Mariam offers them Zamzam water?
5. At one point in the story, Mariam worries about running out of Zamzam water. Why do you think sharing can sometimes feel hard? What helps us decide to share anyway?
6. Throughout the story, Mariam learns new ways to say “thank you.” Why is it important to express gratitude? What are some ways you show thanks without using words?



### Zamzam for Everyone

Written by Razeena Omar Gutta

Illustrated by Bassent Dawoud



Illustration © Bassent Dawoud  
from *Zamzam for Everyone*



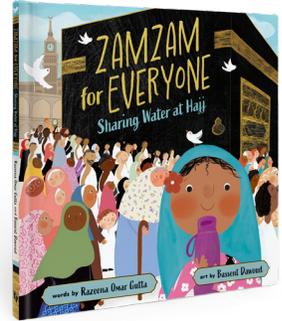
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7. The book shows how people help Mariam and her family when they need it. How does kindness travel from one person to another in the story? Have you ever experienced kindness coming back to you?
8. Why do you think the author chose Hajj as the setting for this story? What does Hajj teach us about community and caring for others?
9. The endnotes explain the story of Zamzam and go into more detail about Hajj. What aspect of Hajj are you excited to learn more about?



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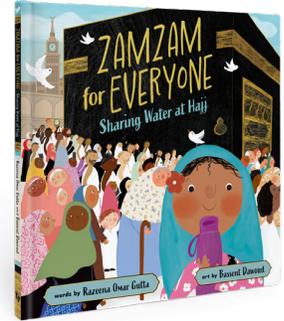
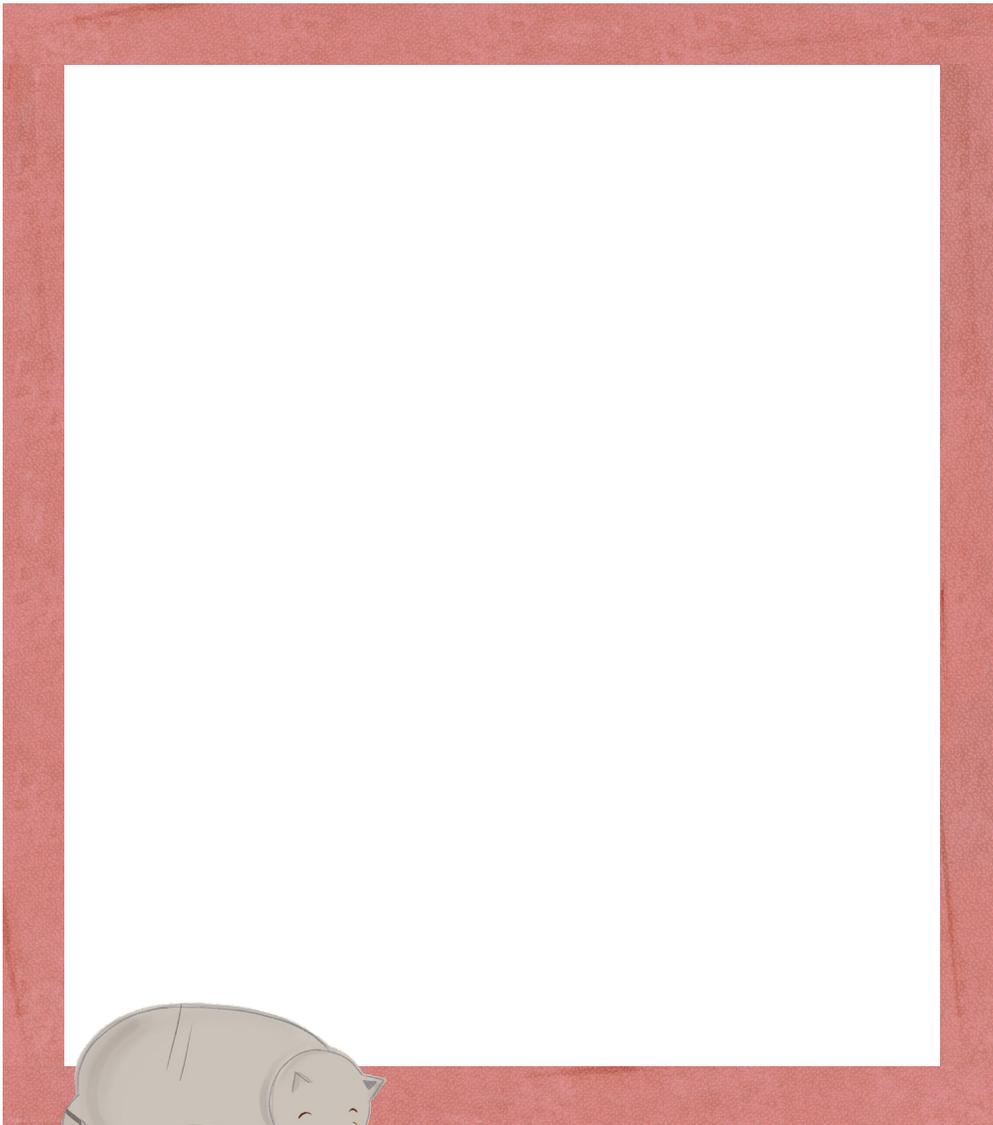
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## Activity: Sharing Kindness Around the World

Imagine you are traveling like Mariam and meeting people from many different places. Draw a picture or write a short story about a moment when you share something kind – this could be food, water, a smile, or help. Think about who you are sharing with, how it makes you feel, and how they might respond.



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