

The Proudest Blue:

A Story of Hijab and Family

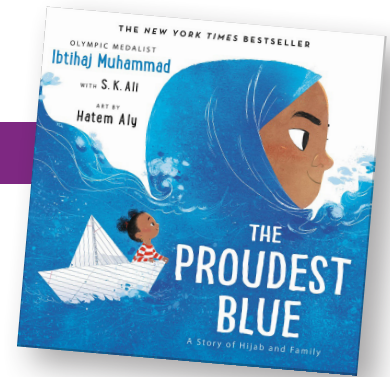
A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Culture, Family, Self-acceptance

Book Brief: Faizah, a young Muslim girl, is excited for the first day of school, especially because her sister Asiya is wearing her beautiful blue hijab for the first time. When faced with hurtful comments, Faizah learns to stand strong and celebrate the beauty and strength of her sister's choice.

Author:
Ibtihaj Muhammad &
S.K. Ali

Illustrator:
Hatem Aly



TIME TO READ!



Before: Read the title of the story and look at the cover. Ask your child what they think will happen in the story.

During: As you read, ask, “How does Faizah feel about her sister? How does she show her love?”

After, ask questions:

- How does Faizah feel about her sister's hijab?
- What happens to Asiya in the story?
- What are some ways the sisters show their pride?

INTENTIONAL TALK

Story Awareness means “talking like a book.” When children hear stories read aloud many times, they often remember patterned language, both the words that are said and the tone and rhythm with which they are read. Children will often repeat favorite phrases or pages from memory. This is much more than memorization, it is a way for

children to internalize the way stories should sound when they are read. *The Proudest Blue* contains repetition, refrains, and rhythm to show the ways the blue hijab represents strength and pride. Encourage your child to listen and enjoy these phrases along with you, or even say them with you as you read over and over again.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Think of something that makes you proud and gives you strength. It could be something you wear, something you do, or an experience that's meaningful to you. Share it with others to show your strength—maybe it's a song you've learned, a dance you love, your imaginary friend, or even a favorite stuffed animal. Explain how this special thing helps you feel strong and confident.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT HIJAB

- **The Kindest Red: A story of Hijab and Friendship (2023)**
- **The Boldest White: A story of Hijab and Community (2024)**
- **Under my Hijab (2019)**