



The Greatest Gift of All

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Education, Religion

Book Brief: The true tale of a girl who shares her love of learning.

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Rócio Denarmen

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What is something you’ve learned that you were excited to share with someone else? How did it feel to teach them?” Explain to students that this story is about real events, but it is told like a story with characters, a setting, and events in order.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about the main idea of Fatima’s story and the important lesson we can learn from her life.”



Think Aloud: “I’m thinking about what this story is mostly about. It’s not just that Fatima loved learning—it’s that she believed education was so important that she wanted to share it with everyone. That seems like the main message.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What does Fatima value most in her life?
- Why do Fatima and Maryam decide to honor their father?
- How does Fatima make a difference in other people’s lives?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: “What is the main idea of Fatima’s story? What important lesson can we learn from her life?”

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, “What is something you know how to do well that you could teach someone else?” Connect Fatima’s passion for education to how we all have knowledge and skills worth sharing, and have students reflect on their own role as learners and teachers. Encourage students to become “classroom experts” by choosing one skill or topic they know well (like a math strategy, a game, how to draw something, or facts about their favorite animal) and create a simple lesson or demonstration to teach a classmate or family member.

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- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit www.Skybrary.org to learn more.
- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.