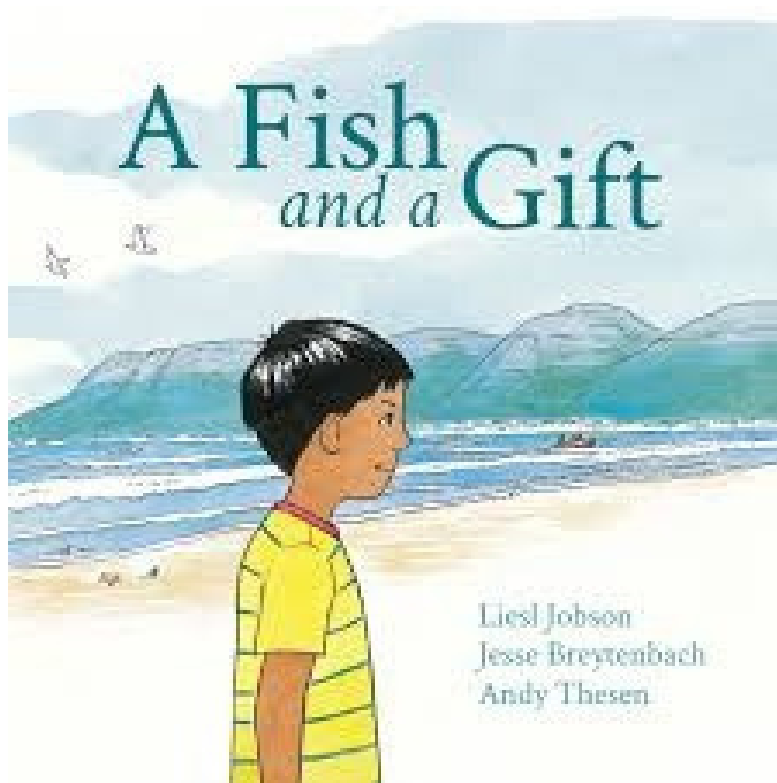


A Fish and a Gift

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Culture & Tradition

Family & Friends

Social & Emotional Learning

SUB-THEMES

Little Things Mean a Lot

Livelihood & Occupations

Story Discussion Guide

Learning Outcome

- Understand livelihoods linked to natural resources like the ocean.
- Appreciate parental love and sacrifice.
- Learn about fishing as a profession and its risks.
- Reflect on how families show love differently.

Before Reading:

- Do you know anyone whose job takes them away from home?
- What kinds of jobs exist in your community?

During Reading:

- What work does Yusuf's father do?
- How does Yusuf feel when his father is away?

After Reading:

- Why does his father bring sea gifts?
- What challenges do fishermen face?

Activities :

- Draw a gift you would bring from the sea.
- Role Play different community jobs.
- Story Extension: Write about a special handmade or found gift.

Expected Outcomes

- Awareness of how livelihood affects family life.
- Appreciation for acts of love in families.
- Connection between environment and livelihoods.
- Value of storytelling across generations.

Applicable SDGs

SDG 1 – No Poverty:

Shows livelihood realities and dependence on natural resources.

SDG 8 – Decent Work & Economic Growth:

Highlights fishing as meaningful work requiring skill and resilience.

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities:

Builds empathy for families whose work demands long hours and sacrifice.

SDG 14 – Life Below Water:

Connects human livelihood to marine ecosystems and ocean care.

CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT

Horizontal Alignment:

- Tale of the Water Hyacinth – Using natural local materials to make products

Vertical Alignment:

Ages 5–8:

- A Fish and a Gift (this story)

Ages 8–10:

- The Strong Woman is My Mother – Social Worker
- Thank You, Mr. Falker – Teacher

Ages 10–12:

- Grace Banu Finds Her Voice – Engineer & Lawyer
- A Tiny Seed – Tree planting as livelihood
- Trombone Shorty – Musician

About Zamasama

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences.

Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.