



## Picture books are for everyone!

A.M. Dassu remembers loving *Spot the Dog* as a small child. She says she kept on reading it even when she was a bit older. Laura says age doesn't matter when you're reading a picture book. Do the children have a favourite picture book that they still love? What was your favourite picture book as a child – do you still have it and could you bring it in to read to them? You could make a collection of picture books for reading when children want to feel cosy, warm and secure. Or the children write a review of their best picture book, print an image of it, and collect them together into a display or class book/audio recording.

## Having empathy

Laura says that stories like *Kicked Out* are so important to help us know more about how other children live. Knowing the children in your class, give them time as you read the book together to share how they think Aadam is feeling at different points in the book. Some children's lived experiences may mean they see themselves represented in Aadam, or in Sami, or the other boys in the book. Why do the children think it is important that we understand more about each other?

## What can we do?

At the back of *Kicked Out*, A.M. Dassu has included a section about what we can do to support refugees and unaccompanied minors. Knowing your children, and after finishing the book, read through this section together. You could take each point as a theme for discussion: *Speak up; Challenge racism and hateful language; Email your MP; Reach out and support; Believe things will change.* What thoughts and feelings do the children bring to these discussions? Has Aadam's experience in the book informed them? Is there an action they would like to take?

## Activities for *Kicked Out*

By **A.M. Dassu**

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## Learn more from the Glossary

A.M. Dassu has created a glossary at the end of the book. Children in your class may like to share more about some of these things from their own heritage and families, such as the food listed in the glossary. Or children could look them up to find pictures of the food and clothes. If you are reading the book aloud to the children, model checking back to the glossary, and checking in with the children about their understanding and experiences.

## Friendship

A.M. Dassu says *there are so many ways to be friends*. Take time to explore *friendship* with the children. What does friendship look like in *Kicked Out*? How do Ali, Mark, Aadam and Sami show up for each other? What does friendship look like for the children in your class? Can friendship be difficult? How do the children feel about that? How could they help each other?