



Refugee Week

**Activities for Children
& Young People 2020**

In This Pack

About Refugee Week.....p3

Find out the Facts.....p4

Join an Event.....p5

Do a Simple Act (Short Films on p9)p6

Make a Dolls' House.....p16

Take Part in A Day of Welcome.....p17

Hear It from Someone Who's Lived It.....p18

Classroom/ Home Learning Resources.....p19

Welcome Refugee Children to Your School.....p22

Tell Us What You Did.....p23



What is Refugee Week?

Refugee Week is an annual festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees. Refugee Week 2020 takes place 15-21 June, and has the theme [‘Imagine’](#).



Image © Marcia Chandra

Thousands of children and young people take part in creative activities and acts of welcome for Refugee Week every year, developing a connection with refugee experiences that many will carry with them into adulthood.

This year Refugee Week will be held virtually for the first time, and we hope more young people will take part than ever, whether at school or from their homes. This pack has a range of creative learning activities for children of all ages, to be explored with a teacher, or an adult at home.

The theme of Refugee Week 2020, Imagine, is an invitation to imagine – and fight for – the world we want to see. Thank you for helping young people lead the way.

Refugee Week is a partnership project coordinated by Counterpoints Arts, and we are proud that the National Education Union and City of Sanctuary (coordinators of Schools of Sanctuary) are among our national partners.



Find out the Facts



[Kazzum Arts' Refugee Week page](#) has useful information about refugees and asylum seekers, including key terms, facts, myth busters and a quiz

[Traces](#) is a timeline of refugee contributions to UK arts and culture by Counterpoints Arts

[The History and Contributions of Refugees to the UK](#) is a resource from the Refugee Week archives that includes a timeline of refugees in British history

Image: David Miliband, Ncuti Gatwa, Zoë Wanamaker, Momtaza Mehri, Judith Kerr and Magid Magid © Jillian Edelstein for Refugee Week 2018



Join an Event



Image © Marcia Chandra

We invite children and young people to take part in a range of virtual events this Refugee Week.

Head to the [events section](#) of the Refugee Week website to find out what's on, and if you're interested in holding your own event, our [Refugee Week 2020 Event Organiser Pack](#) has all the information and guidance you need to get started.



Do a Simple Act

Simple Acts are everyday actions we can all do to stand with refugees and make new connections in our communities.

For Refugee Week 2020, we're inviting people of all ages to do one or more of our [eight Simple Acts](#) linked to the theme of 'Imagine'.

Whether you watch a film, take part in a campaign or share your vision for the future, you will be joining a big creative, collective movement to stand with refugees, change how we see displacement and together, imagine a better world.

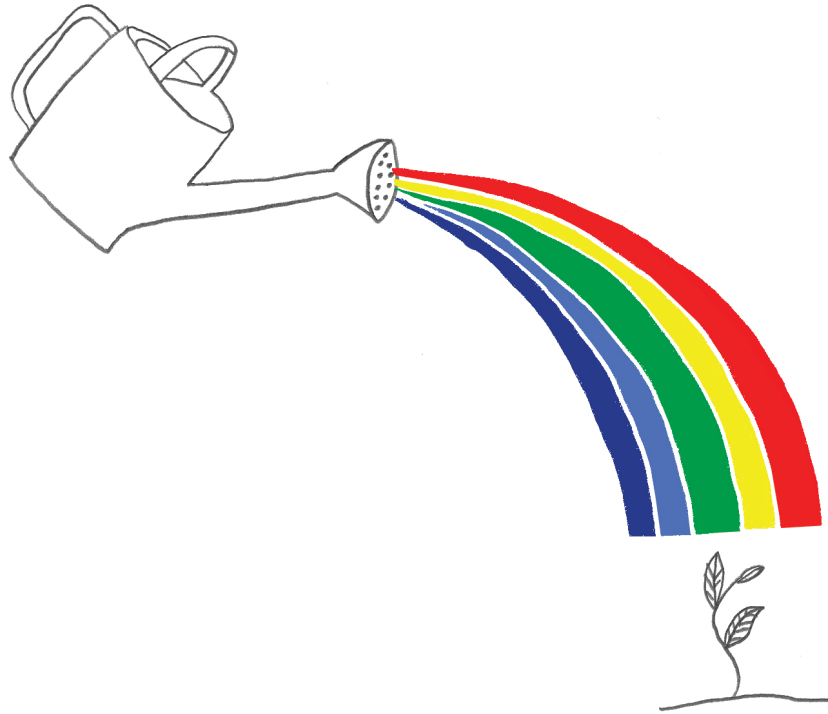
For the full list of Simple Acts, visit the [Simple Acts page](#) on the Refugee Week website



Image © Marcia Chandra



Imagine



What would your school, community, city, or the planet look like, if you made the rules?

You can take this Simple Act wherever your imagination wants to go, and start as small or as big as you like. Here are some ideas to get your started:

- Draw, paint, craft or write a poem or story about the world you want to see
- Write a poem or short story starting with 'Imagine if...' or 'Imagine a world where...'
- Imagine you had to leave your home behind. What would you take with you? What would you hope to find?

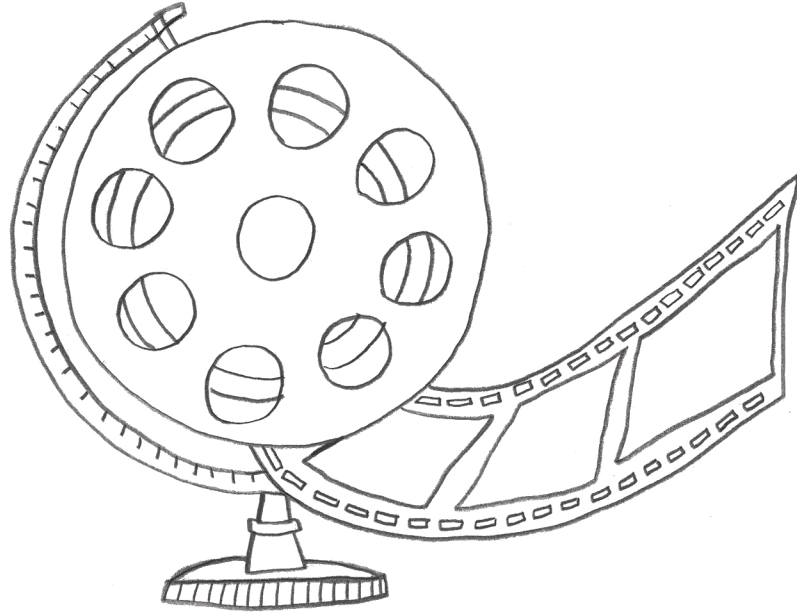
Stick your imagining in your window, send it to a friend, or share it on social media using #Imagine #SimpleActs.

[Read more](#)

SIMPLE ACTS



Watch a Film



The best films take us to places we'd never otherwise have gone, introduce us to people we'd never otherwise have met and spark conversations we wouldn't otherwise have had.

The following pages have suggestions of short films and related resources for all ages.

Spread the word about what you watched together and the conversations it sparked by telling a friend, writing a review or sharing on social media using #WatchaFilm #SimpleActs.



Films for younger children +

Help them Feel at Home (3 mins, age 5+)



Animated poem for younger learners with creative activities by Kazzum Arts.

[View film + learning resources](#)

Escape from England (6 mins, age 8+)



What if we were the refugees? By Claire Desenclos, Counterpoints Arts' Moving Worlds film programme.

[View film + discussion resources](#)

Space Refugees (10 mins, age 8+)



A grandfather and granddaughter escape their ruined planet. By Claire Desenclos, Counterpoints Arts' Moving Worlds programme.

[View film + discussion resources](#)



Films for older children

What you Know about Patience? (4 mins, age 11+)



Animated poem inspired by the experiences of young people seeking asylum in the UK, by Kazzum Arts.

[View film](#) + [learning resources](#)

Young people share their stories (12 short films, 11+)



Children and young people share their personal experiences of displacement, settling in the UK and hopes for the future in a series of new films by My Bright Kite. [View films](#)



Films for older children #2

Dear Habib (4 mins, age 11+)



Animation about Habib, who came to the UK alone from Afghanistan aged 14, by Positive Negatives.

[View film](#) + [learning resources](#)

North Star Fading

(6 mins, recommended age 11+)



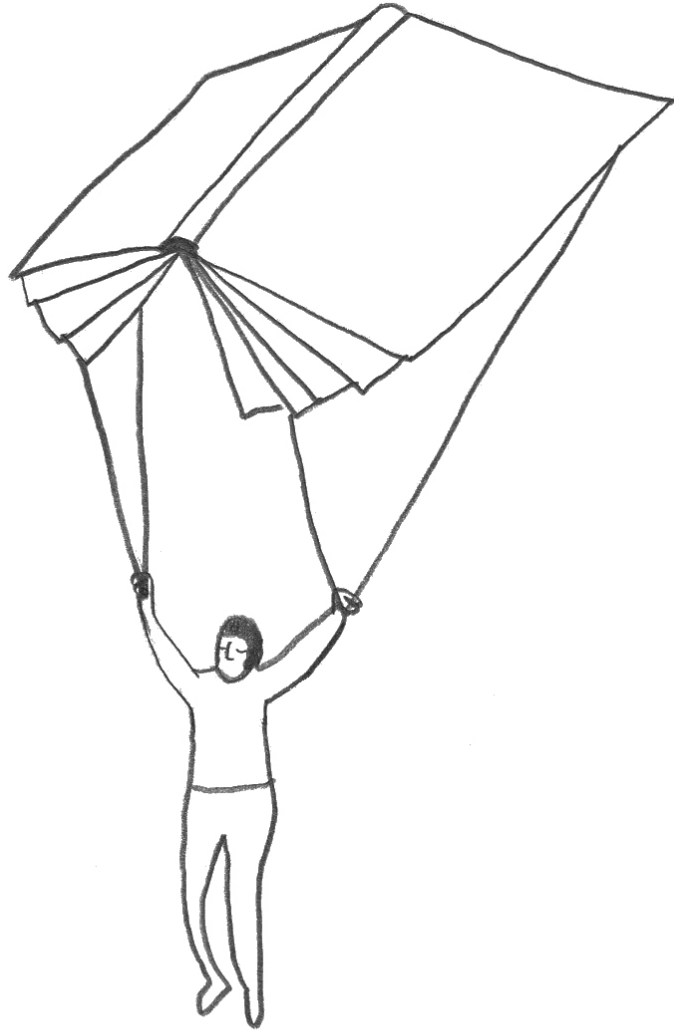
A 'zoom animation' inspired by the testimonies of four Eritrean refugees, by Positive Negatives. Some viewers may find scenes traumatic – teacher/parental discretion advised.

[View film](#)

SIMPLE ACTS



Read a Book about Exile



Reading a book with your child or class can be a great starting point for a discussion about displacement and welcome.

Visit the [Simple Acts page](#) for suggestions of books for younger and older children, and for very young readers, take a look at Chris Naylor-Ballesteros's *The Suitcase* and accompanying [activity pack](#) by publishers Nosy Crow.

Whatever you read together, let us know by sharing on social media using #ReadaBook #SimpleActs.

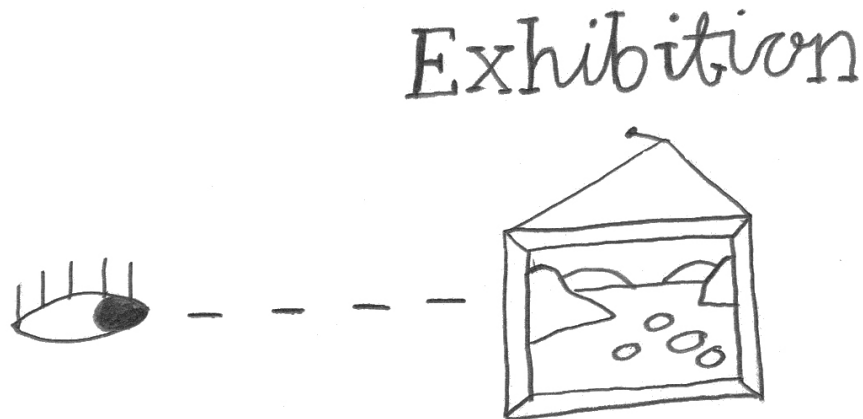


Take a Tour

While we may not be able to visit galleries and museums in person right now, there's a world to see online. You might...

- Discover the hidden history of Basque child refugees and those who welcomed them with the [Havens East project](#), a new online exhibition with Anglia Ruskin University
- Learn about the refugee artists who have helped shape UK culture through Counterpoints Arts' [Traces Project](#)
- Discover the lives and work of women photographers who came to the UK as refugees in the 1930s, through the [Another Eye virtual exhibition](#)

What did you take away with you? What would you like tell others about? Share on social media using #TakeaTour #SimpleActs



Share a Song



Share a song that has crossed borders.

Learn a song in Farsi, Swahili, Arabic and more with Music Action International's [Harmonise resource](#), which has tracks, lyrics, chords and video tutorials of songs from around the world led by musicians from refugee backgrounds.

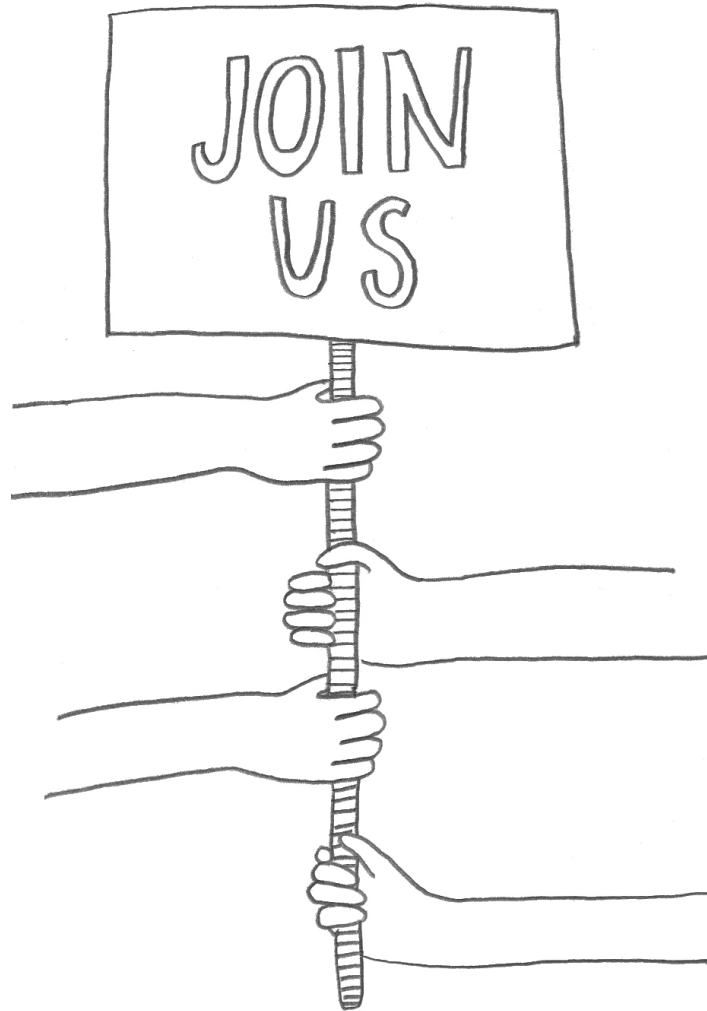
Or simply discover a new track and share it with a friend - see the [Simple Acts page](#) for ideas, including our Refugee Week 2020 Spotify playlist.

However you share a song, we want to know! Share your videos, photos or favourite tracks on social media using [#ShareASong](#) [#SimpleActs](#).

[Read more](#)



Join the Movement



Refugees and asylum seekers need our support and solidarity all year round.

So once June is over, we invite young people will carry the spirit of Refugee Week with them, and continue to take a stand. By doing so, they'll be joining a huge global movement that says, enough is enough. We welcome refugees.

From campaigning to volunteering, we'll be sharing specific ways people of all ages can show their support during Refugee Week 2020 and beyond.

[Read more](#)



Make a Dolls House

Make your own miniature home and be part an international Virtual Giant Dolls' House for Refugee Week 2020.

The Virtual Giant Dolls' House project 'Alone Together' invites children of all ages to make their own doll's house in a shoe box. This is an opportunity for young people to share their experience of being stuck at home, while also imagining what it's like to lose the place where you live.

To find out more about the project and how to make your dolls' house, visit the [Giant Dolls' House website](#). The organisers would like to share the houses during Refugee Week (15-21 June), so this is a great one to do in the run up to the week.

The Giant Dolls' House project is led by architect Catja de Haas and is supported by Oxfam and the London Festival of Architecture.

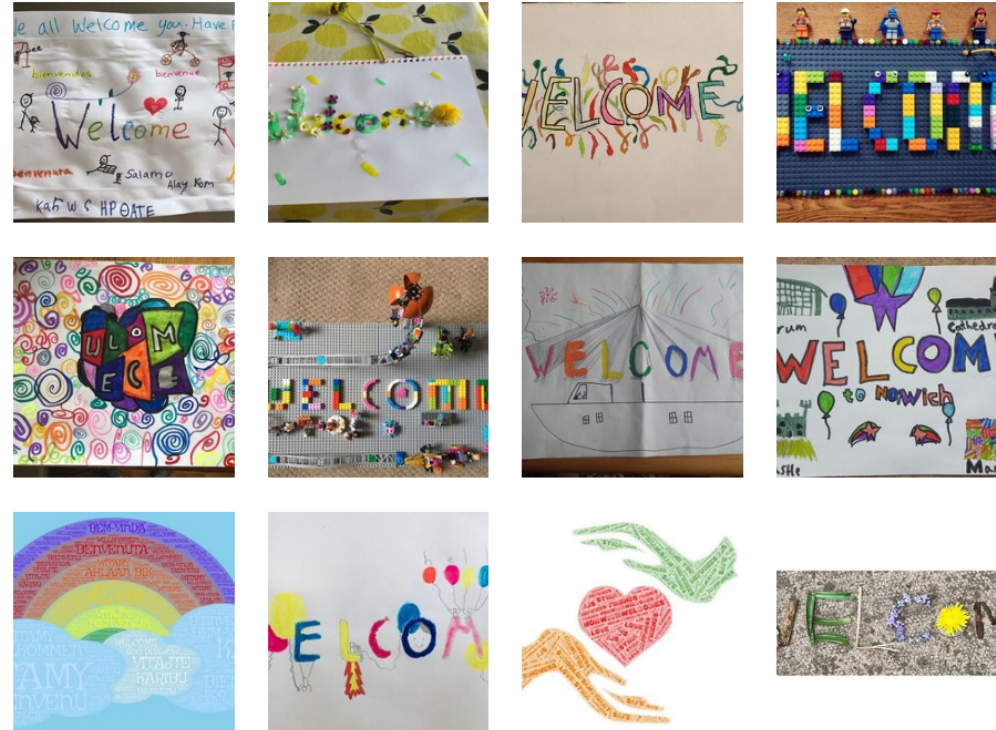


Take Part in A Day of Welcome, 12 June

Coordinated by Norfolk Schools of Sanctuary, A Day of Welcome is a day of solidarity and learning that aims to build a culture of welcome and understanding for refugees and asylum seekers.

There are a whole range of ways you can take part, at school or at home. To get started, take a look at the [Words of Welcome](#) resource (KS1-5), which invites young people to create a piece of art welcoming Syrian families who have resettled in the UK. When you've finished, share your artwork with Norfolk City of Sanctuary and they'll include it in their digital exhibition.

The Day of Welcome [webpage](#) has a range of further ideas for how you can get involved, or you can pick an activity from this pack.



Hear It from Someone Who's Lived It

Invite a speaker who has experienced displacement first-hand to join your school or youth group for language practice or cultural exchange.

NaTakallam's School Sessions virtually connect students with a displaced person from the Middle East, Latin America, or Africa for an interactive conversation offering personal insight into global issues.

The real-time virtual lessons can be customised for any age group, and Arabic or Middle East-focused sessions are available for free thanks to funding from the Qatar Foundation.

Find out more and apply on the [NaTakallam website](#) – note you need to allow two weeks for the session to be arranged.



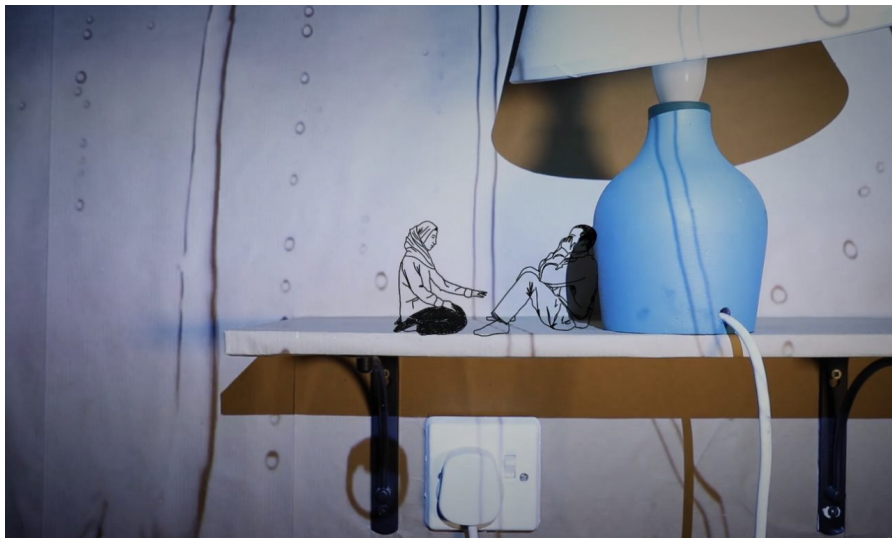
Classroom/Home Learning Resources



Refugee Week 2020 Creative Activity Packs
by Kazzum Arts (KS1, 2, 3 & 4)

[Primary and secondary activity packs](#) containing creative activities responding to Kazzum's animated poems '[Help them Feel at Home](#)' (KS1 and KS2) and '[What You Know About Patience](#)' (KS3 and KS4).

Combining poetry, creative writing and visual arts, these activities encourage children and young people to reflect on the experiences of young asylum seekers and refugees, highlighting the positives, building empathy and challenging negative stereotypes.



Comics & Animation Resources by Positive Negatives (KS3+)

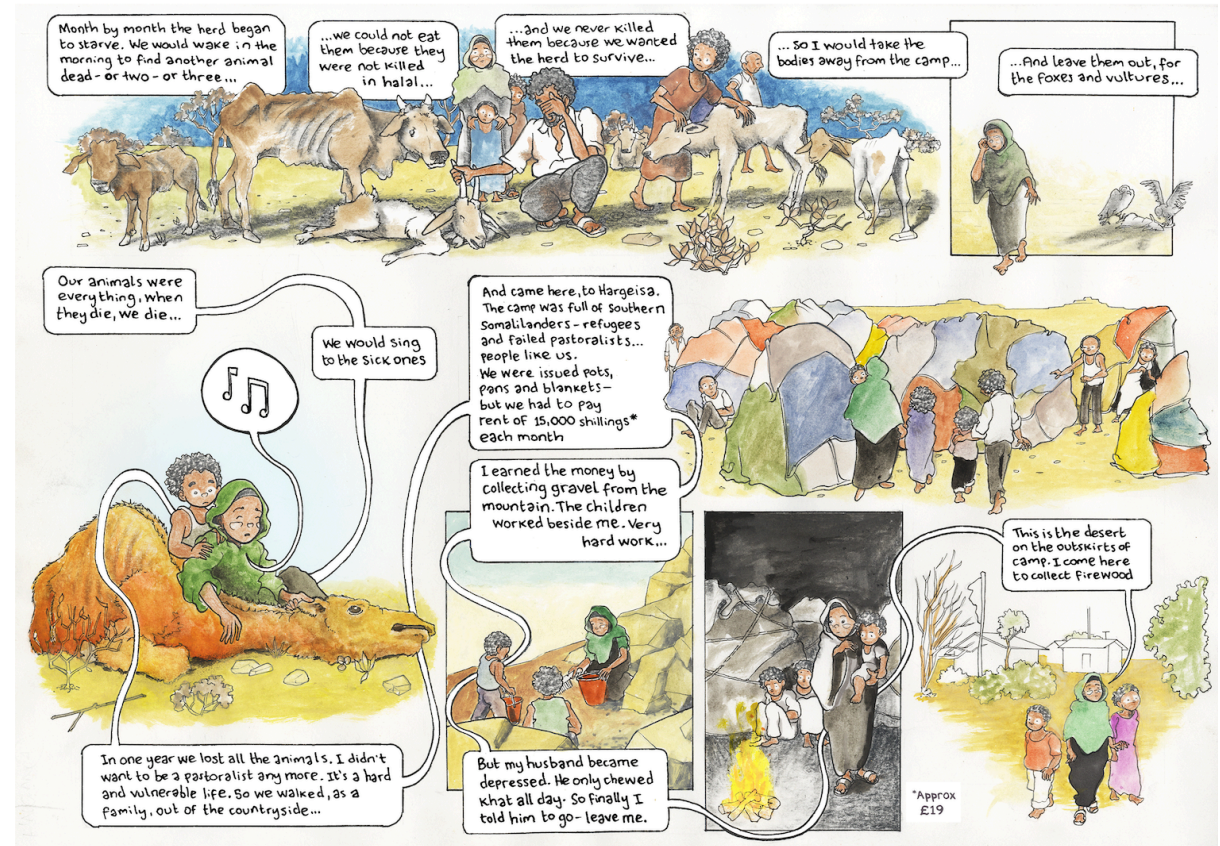
Comics, animations and learning resources based on real life testimonies of refugees and migrants including:

[Dear Habib](#), an animation about being an unaccompanied child refugee in Britain

[A Perilous Journey](#), a trilogy of three comics based on the experiences of Syrian refugees travelling to Europe

[North Star Fading](#), a zoom animation inspired by the testimonies of four Eritrean refugees (teacher/ parental discretion advised)

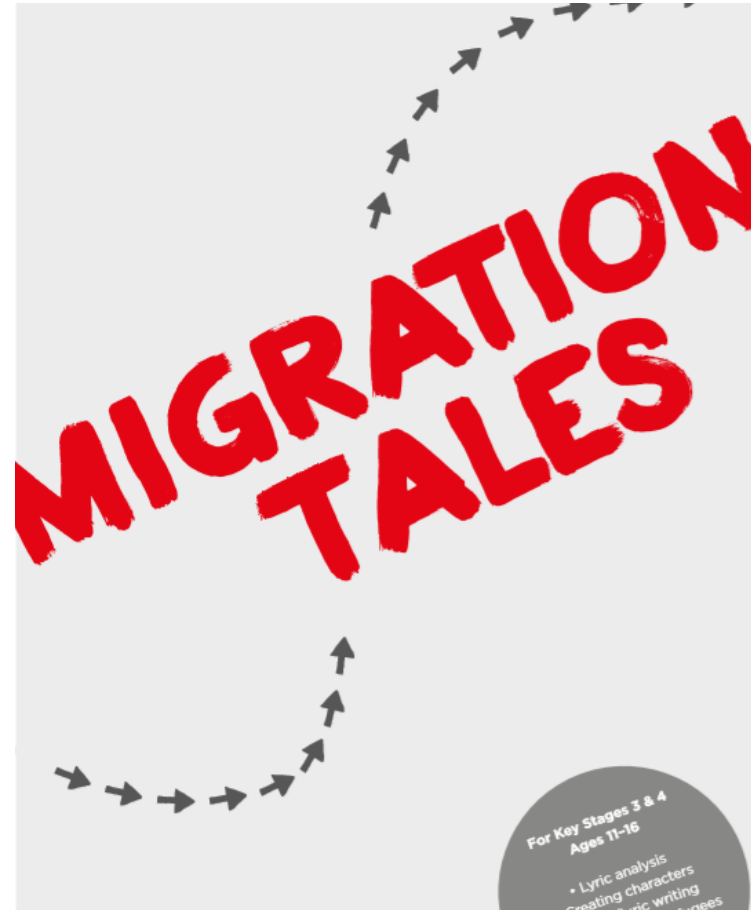
[Ola](#), a webcomic about having irregular immigration status in the UK



Migration Tales Writing Pack by Ministry of Stories (KS3 & 4)

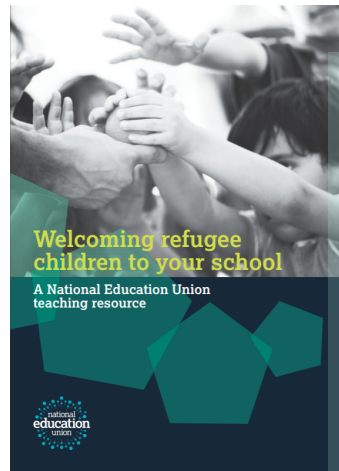
A [writing pack](#), released for Refugee Week 2020, to help young people investigate stories of migration and those seeking refuge. Young writers will be able to create their own poetry inspired by song lyrics.

At the heart of the writing exercises is the question of what is it that would make someone leave their home and their loved ones, and how do you start to build a new life after that?



Welcome Refugee Children to Your School

What happens when Refugee Week is over? We invite schools to embed the brilliant work they do during Refugee Week by promoting welcome throughout the year, and considering becoming a School of Sanctuary



NEU Resource

[Information from the National Education Union](#) about ways you can create a refugee-friendly school, make an accessible curriculum and think about some principles of effective practice.



Schools of Sanctuary Resource

A School of Sanctuary is a school that is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for those seeking sanctuary. The [Schools of Sanctuary Resource Pack](#) contains teaching resources and a detailed guide for schools who want to be recognised as a school of sanctuary.



Tell Us What You Did!

However you celebrate Refugee Week, let us know!

Add your voice and inspire others to get involved by sharing on social media using #RefugeeWeek2020 (make sure you have permission from parents/guardians if sharing images of children).

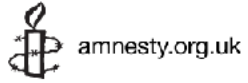
Filling out our [online feedback survey](#) will also help us measure the reach and impact of Refugee Week, and plan for future years – thank you!



Image © Marcia Chandra



Partners



British Future...



imix



Refugee Week is coordinated by **COUNTERPOINTS**.

