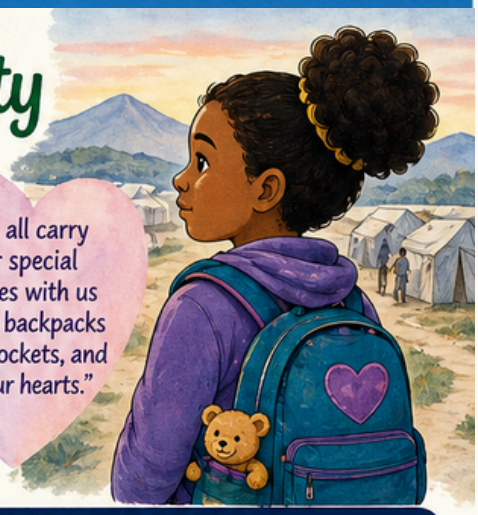
Family Connection Activity

My Home Is in My Backpack

by Emma Perrella



A poignant but hopeful story of forced migration, told through the eyes of a young refugee.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Clara and her family must leave everything behind, but she learns that home is not just a place. It is the people, memories, and feelings we carry inside us. This helps children understand empathy, belonging, and hope.

ACTIVITY: WHAT'S IN MY BACKPACK?

MATERIALS

- Paper
- Crayons, markers, or pencils



1 DRAW YOUR BACKPACK

Have your child draw a backpack on their paper.



2 FILL IT WITH "HOME"

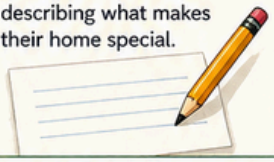
Inside the backpack, have your child draw or write things that represent home to them.

- People they love
- Favorite memories
- Special items
- Feelings such as love, safety, and happiness

3 WRITING CONNECTION "My Home Is..."

Have your child complete one of the following:

- "My home is in my _____ because _____."
- "If I had to carry my home, I would bring _____."
- Write 2 to 4 sentences describing what makes their home special.



4 CONNECT TO THE BOOK

Talk about Clara's journey.

- What did Clara carry with her?
- How did she stay hopeful during her journey?
- What does "home" mean in this story?



EXTENSION: KINDNESS ON THE JOURNEY

Have your child draw or write one way they can help someone who is new or going through a hard time.



Small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

FAMILY TALK

- How can we help others feel safe and welcome?
- What can we do to show kindness like Clara and her friends?



WHAT YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING

- Empathy and compassion
- Understanding of home and belonging
- Writing and self expression
- Awareness of others' experiences

FAMILY TIP

Remind your child that home lives in our hearts through love, memories, and the people we care about.

KEEP READING. KEEP CONNECTING.

Stories help us understand the world and build a kinder, more caring community.

Every story. Every child. Every day.

Scan for More Info!

Show us how Literacy Lives and tag us on social media.

#CCPSWhereLiteracyLives
#BooksWithBoardMembers