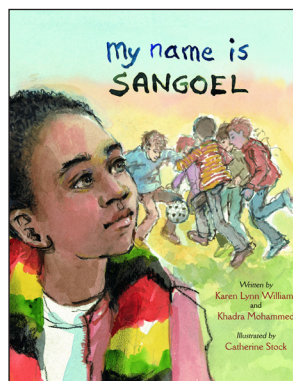




A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR MY NAME IS SANGOEL

This teacher's guide is designed to assist you in creating talking points and ideas for classroom activities in conjunction with school visits.



MY NAME IS SANGOEL
by Karen Lynn Williams
and Khadra Mohammed

THEMES IN THIS BOOK

- Refugees

A refugee is someone who has had to flee their home because of fear of persecution. Most refugees world-wide are children. Are there refugees in your school or community? Where do they come from? How can you make them feel more welcome in their new home?

- Loss/Loneliness

Everyone has had the experience of losing something or someone close to them. And everyone feels alone sometimes. How do you behave when you are lonely or when you have lost someone or something special? How do you feel? What can you do to help someone you care about feel better about a loss? How can you help someone else to not feel lonely?

- Self-identity

It is important to know who you are, where you come from and what your family traditions are. Your name is an important part of who you are. Ask your family how you got your name. Are you named for someone special? What are some other things that make you who you are? What are your talents and dreams and favorite things? What are some things you don't like?

- Making New Friends

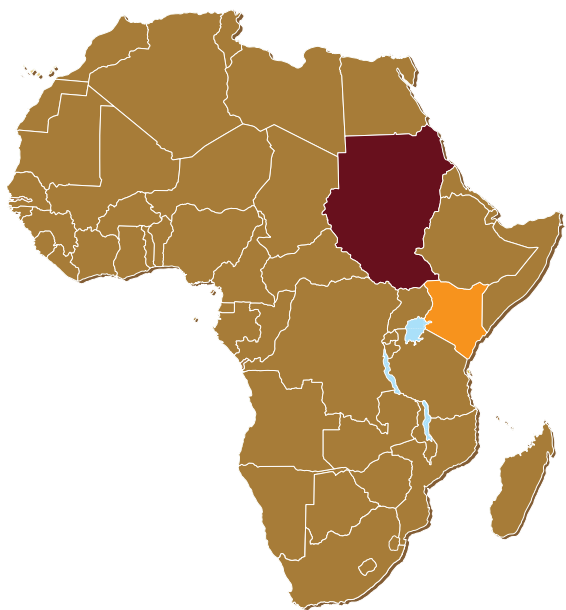
In the story Sangoel has a good idea about how to teach others to pronounce his name. He shares his idea with others and they begin to know him better and perhaps some of his classmates will become his friends. What are some ways to share with people you would like to be friends with? What are some ways to make new friends? How can you help someone who is new in your class or shy to find friends?

- Moving to a New Home

Sangoel had to leave his country and his home. Then he had to leave the refugee camp where life was difficult but where he had friends. Many people have to move for new jobs or because their family has moved. Have you ever had to move? How did it feel?



Sangoel likes soccer, which reminds him of home. This is a whole team of refugees from around the world.



Sudan is pictured in maroon and Kenya is in orange.



A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR MY NAME IS SANGOEL continued

SUBJECT AREAS IDEAS

- Social Studies

Look up the country of Sudan. What are some of their customs? What languages do they speak? Sangoel is from the Dinka tribe. What are their specific customs? What jobs do they do? What foods do they enjoy?

- History

Many people who settled the United States came here from all over the world. Some came as immigrants and others came as refugees. Do you know where your family came from? How did they arrive here? Often people came in through the port in New York called Ellis Island. Look this place up and learn more about immigrants arriving in a new country.

- Geography

Sangoel is from Sudan but the refugee camp where he lived before he came to the United States is in Kenya. Many refugees from Sudan had to walk all the way to Kakuma, the refugee camp in Kenya. Find Sudan and Kenya on a map. About how far did Sangoel and his family have to walk to get to Kenya? How long do you think it might have taken them?

- Art

Sangoel thinks of a creative way to show people how to pronounce his name. Can you show how to say your name with pictures? If your name cannot be sounded out with pictures try drawing a picture that you think stands for your name and the person you are.

- Language Arts

Have you ever had an experience where you felt left out or lonely? Or have you ever had to leave your home? How did it feel? Write a poem about how you felt.



Drawings by refugee children.

- Culture

In the Dinka culture the first born son carries the name of his ancestors as his first name. What are some other traditions for naming in other cultures? Where does your name come from? Were you named after someone special? Where does your family name come from? Can you trace the names on your family tree? Does your name have a coat of arms or other symbol? Research names to find out.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Karen Williams is available to speak and share her stories on this and many of her other books. Please visit www.karenlynnwilliams.com for more information on the books and other information about Karen.