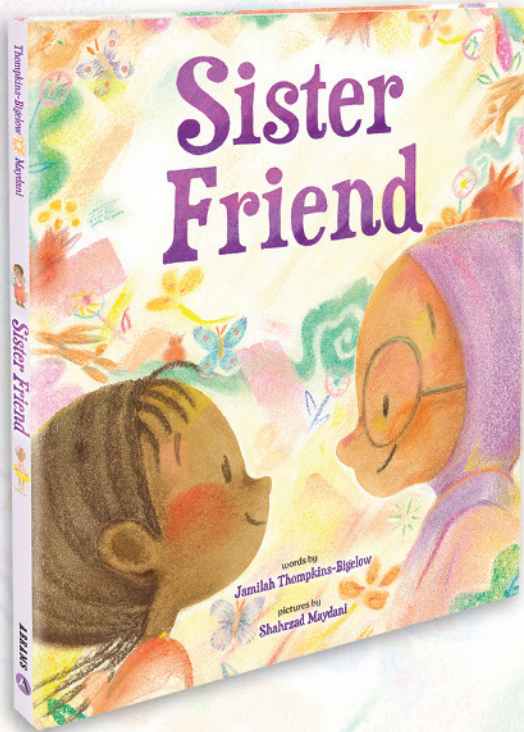


Classroom Activities for *Sister Friend* by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, illustrated by Shahrzad Maydani



ABOUT THE BOOK

Author Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow and illustrator Shahrzad Maydani's *Sister Friend* is a heartwarming new picture book celebrating the unique joy of cultivating friendships within your cultural community.

Ameena feels invisible. It's been that way since she started at her new school. But now there is another new girl in class. Ameena sees her brownness and her hijab, even though the other kids do not.

Ameena wants to be her friend, but she can't seem to find the right words or do the right things. Until one day, they find them together: "Assalamu Alaikum, Sister. Welcome."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, M.S.Ed, is a Philadelphia-based educator and children's book author. A curriculum writer and former English teacher, she has educated children and teens

in traditional and alternative learning settings for 15 years. As an inaugural AMAL fellow with the Muslim Anti-Racism Collaborative (MuslimARC), she developed foundational curricular frameworks for youth and adult anti-racist programming. Her picture books and short stories, which feature young Black and Muslim protagonists, have been recognized as the best in children's literature by *Time* magazine, Read Across America, and NPR. These works include *Mommy's Khimar*, *Once Upon an Eid* (anthology contributor), *Grounded* (coauthor), *Your Name Is a Song*, *Abdul's Story*, and *Hold Them Close*.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Shahrzad Maydani is an illustrator of Iranian-English descent, raised in Niger and Kenya. Her debut children's book, *Poetree*, received the Crystal Kite Award and was a Spring 2019 Kids' Indie Next selection. She lives with her family in California.

PRAISE FOR SISTER FRIEND

★ "Thompkins-Bigelow's words resonate deeply and convey feelings of isolation, exclusion, and joyful acceptance. **A powerful exploration of what it means to be welcomed, seen, and accepted.**"

—Kirkus Reviews, starred review



Find Someone Who...

Find someone who says, "Yes, I do"
and write their name in the box!



Do you like
rainbows?

Do you like
Sundays?

Do you like
math?

Do you like
the beach?

Do you like
painting?

Do you like
walking?

Do you like
recess?

Do you like
games?

Do you like
P.E. class?

Make Your Own Bookmark for Your Classroom Library!



[FRONT]

[BACK]

[WITH THE HELP OF AN ADULT, CUT OUT, FOLD ON DOTTED LINE, AND TAPE BOOKMARK TOGETHER]



For best results, print on heavier cardstock.

Get to Know Your New Friend!

Now that you've learned about new friends Ameena and Sundus in *Sister Friend*, let's learn about a new friend in your class! Fill in the information about you, then ask a new friend to write about themselves!

Me!

My name is ...

My birthday is ...

My family members are ...

My favorite food is ...

My hobbies are ...

Me!

My name is ...

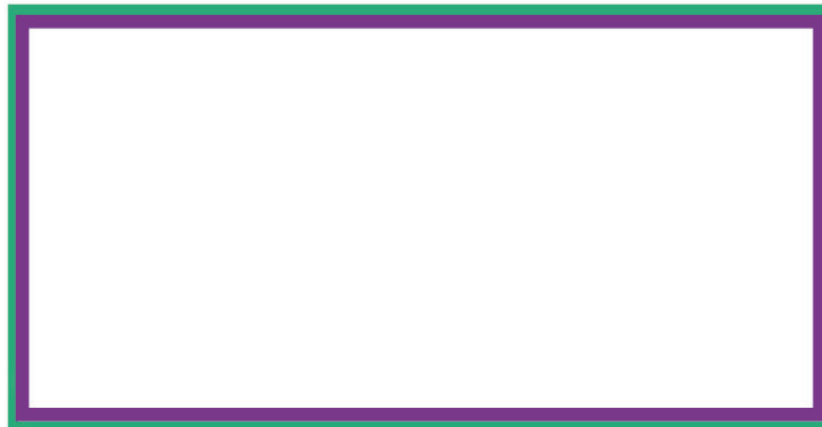
My birthday is ...

My family members are ...

My favorite food is ...

My hobbies are ...

Draw a picture of you and your new friend!



Print these stickers using **Avery Template #94502** to encourage your students to make new friends in their class!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!

I'll Be Your



Friend!