

ASIF

AND THE SONGBIRD

GROWN-UP'S GUIDE



WONDERBOOKS



Some helpful things to know



What does refugee mean?

A refugee is a person who has had to leave their home because they're not safe there. Asif and his family didn't want to leave Syria and take this long and difficult journey, but it was too dangerous for them to stay where they were.

What is the war in Syria about?

The war in Syria has been going on for many children's whole lives. It started in 2011 after people started protesting because they wanted the government to change the way it treated Syrian people.

As protests spread through the country, the government fought back, wanting to silence the protestors. This led to fighting.

This has made Syria very unsafe and meant that many families have left to find safety in other countries.

Who is helping children like Asif?

There are lots of people in the world who want to help children like Asif. Organisations like Save the Children do everything we can to make sure that children like Asif and Karam keep safe, healthy, and learning.

In refugee camps like the one in this story, Save the Children makes safe spaces where children have the chance to play, learn and feel more normal. We also help children who have been through the very worst things talk to someone who can help. And we help make sure children can go to school rather than work.

What kind of bird is Samee?

Samee is a Syrian Serin. Serins are small yellow and grey finches with short bills and deeply forked tails. They're found in Lebanon, Syria, Israel, and Jordan. Their song is like a canary's but a bit slower.

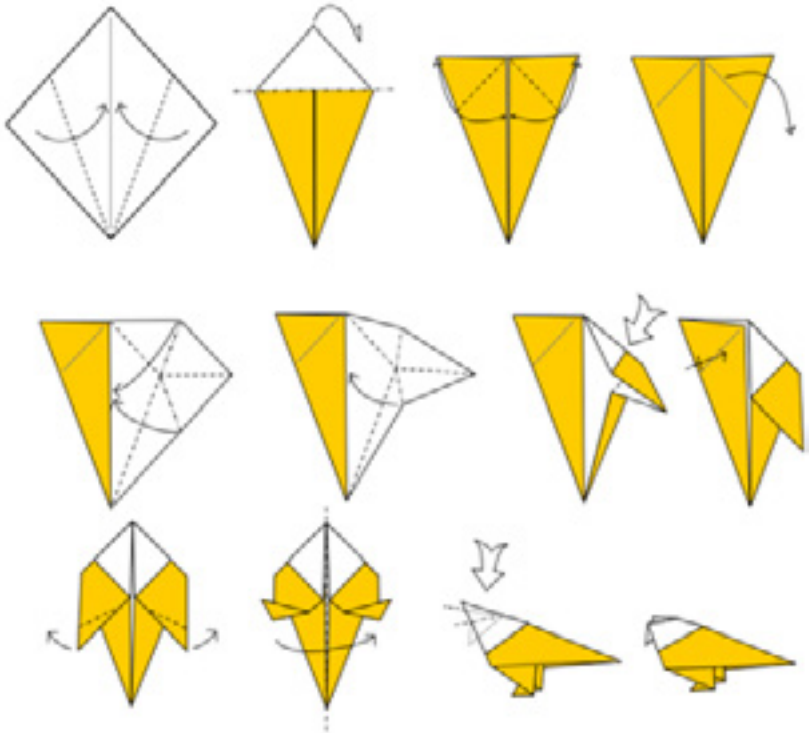


Make your own songbird

You will need:

A square piece of paper

A flat clean surface to work on



Share a picture of your beautiful songbird with us on social media, or at wonderbooks@savethechildren.org.uk

To find out more about children who inspire stories like Wonderbooks, visit savethechildren.org.uk



Tips for reading this book with a child

Before you read

Look at the cover together and ask: *What do you think this book might be about?*

While you read

Start each page by asking *'What can you see?'* to give the reader space to respond freely.

After reading

Reflect on the book together. Ask questions like:
How do you feel about people going on journeys like the one in this book?
What parts made you feel happy or sad?
What do you think they might miss about their home?
What have you learnt about refugees?
What would you ask Asif if you could?

Get creative

Younger children

*Imagine and draw your own bird friend.
What would they look like? How might they sound?*

Older children

Draw a picture to express how you would feel if you had to leave your home and travel to a new country to start a new life. What would you take with you?



If you have any questions about Wonderbooks, email us at wonderbooks@savethechildren.org.uk

Or contact Supporter Care:
Telephone +44 (0)20 7012 6400
Fax +44 (0)20 7012 6963
savethechildren.org.uk

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Registered office:
1 St John's Lane,
London,
EC1M 4AR.

