

Room for Everyone

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Synopsis: Musa and his sister travel to a Zanzibar beach in a shared minibus which, despite Musa's protests, gets loaded with everything from a man and his bicycle to ten swimmers.

Suggested Reading Date: Beginning of the school year, when students are learning how to make room for and include everyone.

Activity Descriptions:

- Play a game of "Sardines" with the children. This is like Hide n' Seek, except only one person hides. Once you find the hidden person, you just join them until no one is left. It literally feels like there is ***no more room for everyone*** to hide with you. It also causes lots of giggling as you try to fit everyone in, much like in the story.
- Print out images of the bus, the swimmers, etc., and post them on the whiteboard (with magnets on the back, and let the children take turns "fitting the characters into the bus. Following the sequence of events. You'll want to start with a pretty big image of the bus, of course. Trying to fit them all them in is sure to cause lots of laughter, as the students struggle to make it work out. There will be feet hanging out of the windows, arms out of the top, and other silly circumstances.
- Simon and Schuster has created two activity pages (one pdf). Click on *Resources and Downloads > Activity Sheets* on the following webpage:
<https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Room-for-Everyone/Naaz-Khan/9781534431393>
- Ask students: Have you ever felt like there couldn't possibly be room for one more person or animal in your household -- and then you gained one more? And, later, you can't imagine living without that new baby brother or puppy ever again. Our hearts can grow to fit everyone in!

Related Websites:

- Author Website: <https://naazkhan.org/>
- Pictures of real dala dalas in Tanzania: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dala_dala
- Information/Sights from Tanzania: <https://www.safaridrive.com/post/10-amazing-facts-about-tanzania>

Text to Text Connections:

The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson, *A Chair for my Mother* by Vera Williams, *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña, *Good People Everywhere* by Lynea Gillen, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today* by Carol McCloud

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