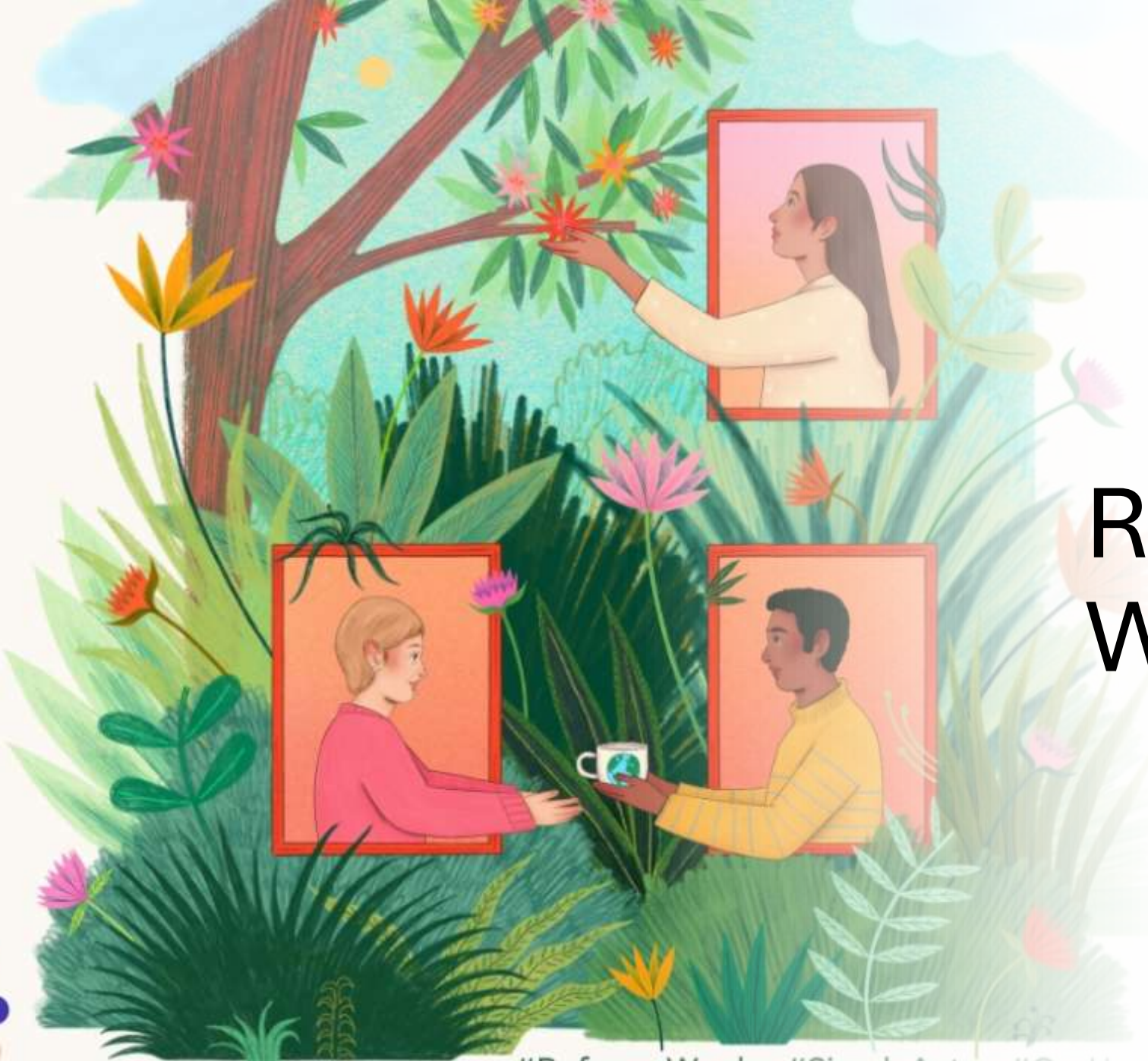


Refugee Week 17-23 Jun



Refugee Week

#RefugeeWeek #SimpleActs #OurHome



What we will explore this morning

- Who refugees are
- Facts about refugees and people who seek asylum
- What is refugee week?
- Understanding the refugee experience
- Why this year's theme is called 'home'
- What can we do to make a difference?

Who are refugees and people who seek asylum?

- Defined by UN Convention of 1951
- Refugee: A person with a well-founded fear of persecution or without the protection of a nationality - unable to return to their former country
- Person seeking asylum: A person who has left their former country and now seeks asylum in a place of safety. Their application has not yet been concluded.



Let's start with some facts...

- Developing countries, not the UK, look after most of the world's refugees
- 72% of refugees live in countries neighbouring their country of origin
- The UK is home to just 1% of the 27.1 million refugees who were forcibly displaced across the world
- 41% of displaced people are children
- People seeking asylum usually come from countries with wars or conflicts or poor human rights records
- In 2021, two thirds of refugees came from just 5 countries: Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Myanmar.

Let's start with some facts...



- Refugees make a huge contribution to the UK, particularly in the field of medicine and the NHS
- People seeking asylum are living on Home Office support which is the equivalent of £7 per day
- People seeking asylum are not able to work until their asylum claims have been processed, which can take years.

WHAT IS REFUGEE WEEK?

- It was created in 1998 to spread awareness of the hostility towards refugees
- It is a global event that highlights the challenges refugees face and the contributions they make to our culture
- It encourages welcoming and inclusion
- This year the theme is "Home"



**Refugee
Week**

Understanding the refugee experience



- Refugees are ordinary people just like us, who have lost everything
- They leave their entire lives behind with usually just the clothes on their back in search of safety
- Currently, there are 82 million looking for a new place to call 'home'



The dangers of fleeing to safety

- Refugees put their lives on the line to reach safety, experiencing dangerous journeys we can never imagine
- The majority of Syrian Refugees take the EMR by sea.
- This dangerous route unfortunately does not always guarantee safety as many die from: drowning at sea due to faulty boats, dehydration and starvation at sea crossings etc.
- An estimated 18,500 migrants and refugees have died crossing the Mediterranean Sea.

Knowing the risks and accepting the risks



- A syrian refugee told UNU "You go to die, you know? This journey; everyone calls this journey the journey of death. So everyone knows that, and when I was in Turkey I knew it and I knew it would be difficult, it would be dangerous, maybe I would die. But yeah ... Sometimes life does not give you a lot of choices, so that's the only choice I had when I was in Turkey, so I told myself 'I'll just make it'."
- Refugees fall victim to kidnapping and extortion, torture and rape, are beaten, shot, and killed by criminals or border officials.
- How they move in each stage of the journey becomes a trade-off between risk, chance encounters, and often sheer luck.
- It takes immense courage and remarkable bravery which shouldn't go unnoticed and bring awareness to it this week.

Why 'Home'?



- Refugees had a home; a place where they could eat, dream and live in peace, but lost it due to war and conflict.
- Homes are where you feel safe. In a home you belong and are loved, and everyone deserves to have a home.
- Whilst refugees will always cherish the homes they had to leave, they deserve to live peaceful lives no matter where they are. This is why feeling at home is so important.
- Providing refugees with a safe space, listening to their concerns and helping build new memories can help make the UK feel more like a home away from home.

Celebrating Contributions



- Refugees bring diverse skills and perspective, these skills could be anything from cooking and sewing to medicine and education.
- the presence of these people enrich our lives and with an ever-growing diverse community like London, we are able to make links between communities and help us understand our world.

Yusra Mardini



- Fled Syria for Germany
- Dangerous journey across the Mediterranean Sea
- Yusra went on to compete in the first ever refugee team in the Olympics



BBC
NEWS

How can we make a difference?

Share

Share facts and eliminate stereotypes

Read

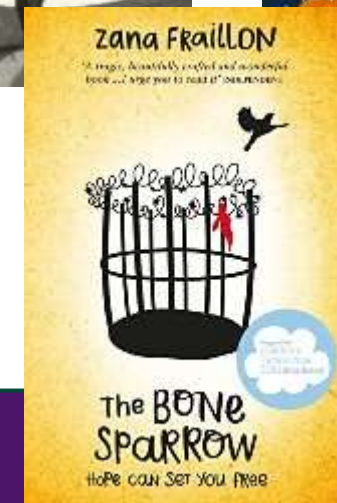
Learn from the stories of refugees

Learn

Learn the facts about 'safe routes' to the UK

Support

Support organisations helping refugees



Pledges for Refugee Week 2024



- Help to create a world where everyone can have a safe and welcoming home



Links to websites for form tutors



<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/information/refugee-asylum-facts/>

<https://www.unhcr.org/uk/news-and-stories/special-features/great-british-welcome>

https://www.rescue.org/uk/article/eight-things-you-can-do-refugee-week?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw4MSzBhC8ARIsAPFOuyXT4vNcci3U8JlbYKTEEx76U46bquWEN5Hi0_ZBUdM2HGdkKsF6RD00aAmOOEALw_wcB