

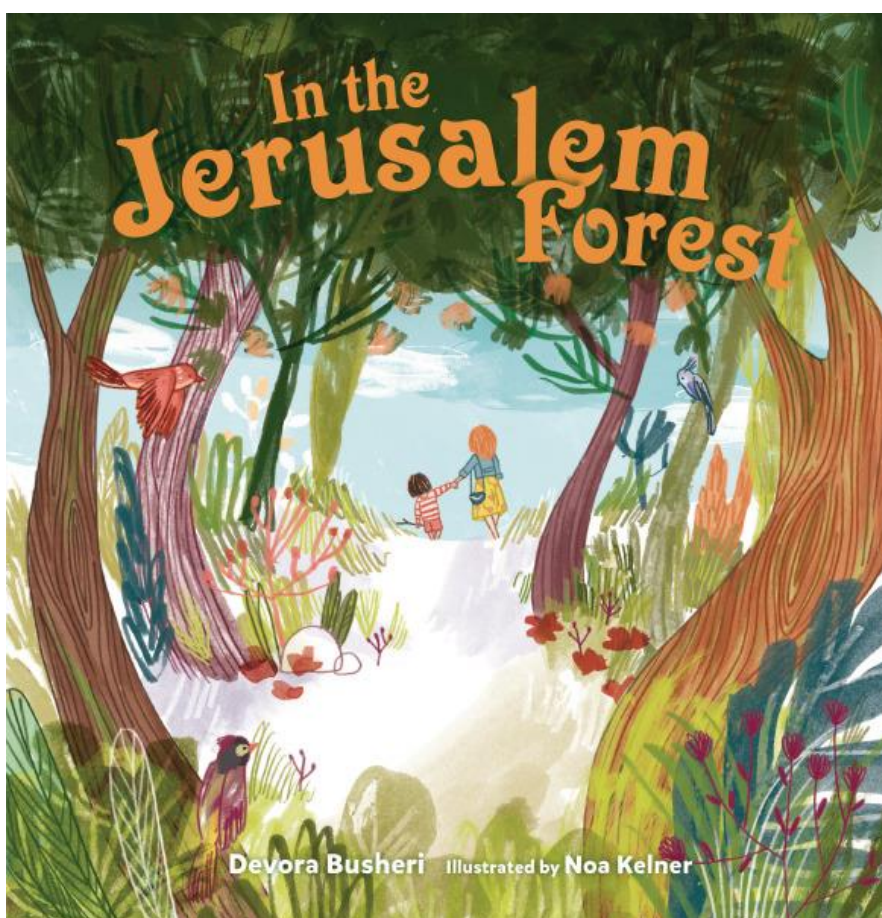
KAR-BEN

PUBLISHING

A division of Lerner Publishing Group

eSource

Resources for Teachers and Students



© KAR-BEN Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group
This guide may be downloaded for free at www.karben.com.
This guide may be used expressly for educational
purposes only, and cannot be sold.
Please send questions or inquiries to publicity@karben.com.
241 1st Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55401

HC: 978-1-5415-3472-8
PB: 978-1-5415-3473-5
eB: 978-1-5415-6122-9
Ages 4-9 | Grades PreK-3
To purchase the book, call 1-800-4KARBEN or visit
www.karben.com.

Overview

Haim Nahman Bialik is known as the National Poet of Israel. His poem "The Pond" inspired author Devora Busheri to write a book about reflections: as a girl and her mother walk through the woods, water puddles reflect the woods around them, art reflects reality, the child's face is reflected in her mother's gaze and vice versa.

In the Jerusalem Forest is a modern reflection of Bialik's beautiful poem and is a great way to introduce young students to this concept of reflections and emotions.

About the Author

Devora Busheri is a children's book writer, editor, and translator. She has authored and edited many books for various publication houses in Israel. Her previous include *The Abba Tree* and *In the Jerusalem Forest*. Devora lives in Jerusalem with her husband and their four children.

About the Illustrator

Noa Kelner graduated from the Bezalel Academy of Art & Design. She works with book publishers, newspapers, and magazines, and loves to give stories color and form. She is the co-founder and artistic director of the annual "Outline – Illustration and Words" festival in Jerusalem and also teaches illustration. She lives in Jerusalem with her husband and two children.

About The Jerusalem Forest:

In the early years of the Jewish state, even while it was struggling for its very survival, both in terms of security and of economy, the Jewish people never neglected the spiritual, cultural, and environmental aspects of creating a country. At those years, The Jewish National Fund planted thousands of trees along the western edge of Jerusalem, creating a green belt. In 1956, the second president of Israel planted the first tree of the Jerusalem Forest which covers 1,250 dunams today. The forest acts as a refuge for wildlife, and there are packs of [jackals](#) that inhabit the forest.

Objectives

Reading Comprehension – The story is very simple and short. While reading, take a look at the emotions the illustrations add. When is the girl more eager than the mother? When is she afraid? When is she curious? When are the girl and the mother most happy?

Playing with reflections - The book deals a lot with reflections and how those reflections evoke emotions or can show us different perspectives. Think about the reflections in the book and how those show different emotions or ways of looking at the world.

Lesson Plan

What You Need:

- a copy of the book,
- a photocopy of one or two of the illustrations of your choosing.
- Reflective paper (sold at stationary shops) or actual little mirrors.
- Crayons and papers.

Questions to Ask:

1. Read the first page with the MOTTO by Bialik and tell student's it's what inspired the book. Has anything inspired you to make something because of it?
2. Looking at the illustrations, what is the daughter feeling? What is the mother doing about it?
3. Have you ever taken a nature walk? What's one that you remember? Did anything funny or scary or wonderful happen?

Alternative Activities to Try:

REFLECTION GAME: Break up into pairs and have one person lead and the other "reflect" them. After a while, have them switch.

DETECTIVE GAME: One person leaves the room while the rest of the class sits in a circle and chooses a leader whom everyone else in the circle will reflect. The person who left the room is called back and are given three tries to guess the leader. They have to do it without asking any questions and without the class talking.

DRAWING REFLECTIONS: hold a mirror to one of the illustrations and draw what you see. Try to draw letters or your own name in mirror image.