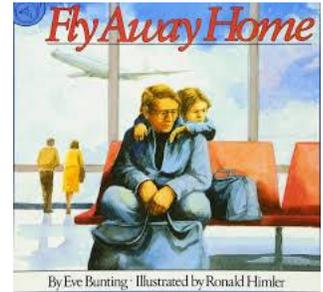


# Fly Away Home

By Eve Bunting

This story is about a boy and his father who are homeless and live in an airport. They move from terminal to terminal trying not to be noticed. When a bird trapped inside the airport finds its way outside, the boy and his dad feel hopeful about their own circumstances.



## Discussion and Questions:

- The boy in the story tries to help his dad. How do you help your family?
- Can you name different kinds of homes that people live in? (i.e., house, condo, apartment, etc.)
- Who lives in your home with you?
- What do you like most about your home?

## Activities:

### • Building Blocks

- The boy and his dad encounter people with experiences that are different from their own. Provide building blocks and invite the children to make their own a structure. As the structures are built, note the similarities and differences of the blocks (i.e., color, shape, size). Even though the blocks are different in some ways, each one can be used to build the structure. Similarly, we need all kinds of people to “build” our world. For example, the boy in the story lived in an airport. He was a hard worker, respectful, and a good friend. Celebrating our differences and similarities helps build our community.
- Additional activities can be found at: <https://qrgo.page.link/E51Bb>

### • Be a Helper

- In a classroom setting, consider inviting a staff member from a local homeless shelter or food pantry to talk with the children. Ask the individual to bring pictures, artifacts, or videos to help illustrate what the organization does and what their needs are. Encourage children to ask questions of the staff member.
- Following the classroom visit, brainstorm ideas with children about how they can help the homeless in their community (i.e., donate supplies, have a bake sale and donate the proceeds). Decide as a group what to do to help others. Create a plan with the group and then make it happen. Be sure to involve the children as much as possible.
- If this activity is not realistic, brainstorm ideas with the children about how individual families can help the homeless in the community. This could be compiled as a list and added to the class newsletter for families to implement if they wish.

### • On the Inside We Are All the Same

- Fill a bowl or jar with M&Ms. Invite children to list ways the M&Ms are different (i.e., color) and ways they are the same (i.e., shape, size). Ultimately the hope is that children will recognize that the M&Ms are the same on the inside.
- Next ask children how we might be like M&Ms. The goal is to help children recognize that we may look different on the outside, but we inside we are all humans with similar parts – like the M&Ms.
- Additional information for kindness activities can be found at: <https://jewishspecialneeds.blogspot.com/2019/02/using-m-to-teach-diversity-and.html>

- This activity also could be done using two eggs of different colors.