

111 Trees:

How One Village Celebrates the Birth of Every Girl

A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

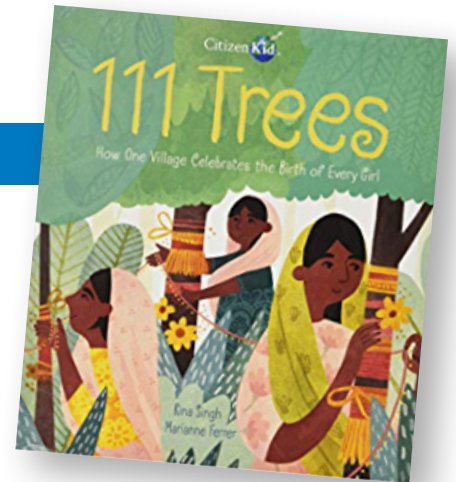
Themes: Community, Environment, Equality, Family

Grade Level: Kindergarten to 3rd grade

Book Brief: A man dreams of a better life for everyone in his village. When his eldest daughter dies, he plants a tree in her honor and that action sparks his great legacy: the planting of 111 trees for every girl born in the village.

Author:
Rina Singh

Illustrator:
Marianne Ferrer



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build background: Talk to your child about different places around the world that experience environmental challenges. Discuss some examples, such as not enough rainfall or too much concrete in a concentrated place.

While reading, ask questions: At turning points in the story, encourage your child to come up with questions. For example, when Sundar faces opposition from the village, “How will Sundar handle the challenge?” Then, see if the text provides answers or discuss questions that are not clearly answered.

After reading, ask questions:

- How did Sundar become a person who cared about other people’s struggles?
- What problems was Sundar trying to solve with his 111 tree program?
- Why did people think planting 111 trees for every girl born in the village was not a good idea?
- How else did the people of the village solve problems once the trees were growing?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

FAMILY AND FRIEND BRACELETS

Materials: embroidery thread, tape

Look at the pictures of the trees on page 36 in 111 Trees. In the style of the sacred threads on the trees in Piplantri, honor family and friends by creating textile bracelets with embroidery thread. Have your child measure 6 or 8 embroidery strings, tie them together, and tape the knot to a board or book. Then demonstrate and use simple knots across the threads, in rows, to create original bracelets to share.



HUG A TREE!

Read the section at the end of the book, on page 32, called “More about Sundar and Piplantri.” Then, go outside, find a tree, and take turns wrapping your arms around the tree. Really embrace the tree. Take photos of each other and selfies together. Talk about how it felt to hug a tree. Consider using one of your photos as a screensaver to remind you to celebrate nature.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai (2008)**
- **No Monkeys, No Chocolate (2013)**
- **We Are Water Protectors (2020)**