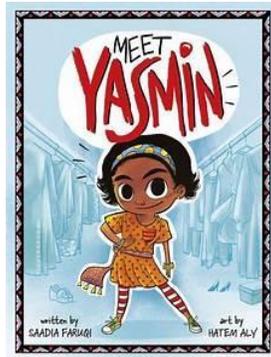


Book Guide

Milwaukee Public Library Summer Reading Program



Book Title:	Yasmin series
Author:	Saadia Faruqi
Illustrator:	Hatem Aly

Recommended Audience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> K5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 rd	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 th	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 th	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 th
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Length of Time to Read:

2-3 days of reading 15-20 minutes each day

Summary:

Yasmin is a Pakistani-American second grader with a big imagination that she uses to solve everyday problems in fun and unique ways.

Before Reading (Create Interest):

Begin by showing students the cover of the book and introducing the title and main character, Yasmin. Yasmin lives in a big city in the United States, but her family is originally from a country called Pakistan. Her family speaks English as well as Urdu, the national language of Pakistan. Yasmin lives with her mom, her dad (whom she calls “baba”), and her grandparents (whom she calls “nana” and “nani”). Ask students what they call the different members of their family. Ask if they have anyone in their family who speaks a different language. Turn to the back of the book and find the page that says “Pakistan Facts.” Read a few facts about the place that Yasmin’s family comes from and find Pakistan on a map or globe if possible. Turn to the table of contents at the front of the book and explain that there are four different stories in each Yasmin book. The table of contents tells you the title of each story and is like a clue to what each story is about. Read the titles of each story and invite students to vote on which one they’d like to hear first. The table of contents tells you the page number that each story begins on. Turn to the page number of the story students want to hear and begin your adventure with Yasmin!

During Reading (Discussion/Questions):

Ask students to listen carefully as you read aloud for any words that might sound different or unfamiliar. Pause the story when you get to an unfamiliar word and ask the students to guess what it means. Encourage them to use the illustrations as clues. Then turn to the back of the book to the “Learn Urdu with Yasmin” page to check your predictions and read the definitions.



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After Reading:

- Ask students how Yasmin and her family are similar to their own family. How are they different?
- Ask students which new words and meanings they learned while listening.
- Ask: Which story from the book was your favorite and why?
- Ask: If you could write a new adventure for Yasmin, what would you have her do?
- Ask: If you could travel to another country, where would you go and why?

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Connection:

- Challenge your students to solve a problem like Yasmin, using their imagination and creativity. Select one or more of the “Yasmin the Builder!” Task Cards found in the Yasmin Activity Kit (available here: https://www.teachingbooks.net/media/pdf/activity_guides/52831.pdf). Read the task aloud to your students and ask them to engineer a masterpiece of their own design using everyday objects like paper and tape.
- Scribble Drawing Game: Encourage students’ creativity with a simple piece of paper and pencil. Draw random squiggles on pieces of paper. Then challenge students to turn the squiggles into an actual object or picture.
- Play the “It’s Not a _____... It’s a _____!” Game: In this imaginative game, take any random object in the room such as a scarf, a stick, or a box. Start by saying “It’s not a scarf, it’s a _____!” and fill in the blank with something creative such as “It’s a snake!” and make the scarf slither across the floor. Ask for volunteers or pass the object around the room to have students share how they can use their imagination to turn an everyday object into something different.
- Using the instructions and template included in the Yasmin Activity Kit, have your students create their own bookmark.

Ideas for younger or older children

In each book, Yasmin imagines herself having different professions or jobs such as a chef, painter, builder, or teacher. For younger students, brainstorm and write down a list of jobs that people have. Ask students to think about what they would like to be when they grow up and to imagine what that job looks like. Play a game of charades and have students silently act out the motions for a job (such as drawing for an artist or spraying water on a fire for a firefighter). Let your group guess the job that each student is acting out. Give all students a turn to perform. For older students, write the jobs on slips of paper and play a game of “Pictionary.” Have each student pick a slip of paper and challenge them to draw it without speaking. The rest of your group can guess the job based on the illustration. There is a saying that you “wear many hats” when you have many talents or jobs. Yasmin is a multi-talented child who is always trying out new activities and jobs. For older students, use the instructions (available here: <https://www.turtlediary.com/kids-arts-and-craft/hat-origami.html>) to fold and make paper hats. Students can decorate their hat to show some of their own talents, favorite activities, or jobs they are interested in.

Additional Notes: This lesson plan can be used with any book in the Yasmin series. If students enjoy the book, encourage them to look for other books in the series at their nearest library. Titles in the Yasmin series include: Meet Yasmin!, Yasmin in Charge, You Can Do It Yasmin!, and more. Additional activities can be found in the back of each Yasmin book or online at https://www.teachingbooks.net/media/pdf/activity_guides/52831.pdf.