



## RATIONALE

Sometimes reading and listening to stories makes you want to respond by doing something that will help others in your community.

## STORIES FROM MEDIATORS

Everyone using this website will be living and working in a different community; therefore, the following stories provide examples from mediators who worked with children who wanted to take some form of local action to help others. It is important that any form of action is grounded in the needs and lives of the children.

Sara used a wordless book called *Mr Wuffles* by David Wiesner. In the book, the aliens communicate using a language that David Wiesner invented (for more information on the made-up language visit at David Wiesner's blog <http://www.davidwiesner.com/work/say-what/>). The children noticed that within their group they spoke about 17 different languages, so they decided to make signs that they could use in the space where they worked in different languages. The mediator said: *They found out there was a problem – no representation of languages – and they worked out how they could solve it.*

Christina used *The Arrival* by Sean Tan which tells the story about a man leaving his family to move to a new country. The children in her classroom made a banner to welcome visitors to the school during Scottish Refugee Week. This week is held annually to celebrate the contribution refugee communities make to life in Scotland.

Kristine used a book called *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi, which tells the story of a young girl migrating to the US from Korea. The children Kristine worked with spoke lots of different languages but they wanted to create a welcome policy for any new children arriving to the group. This included working with others who speak the same language, buddying up and always saying hello. The initiative strengthened the relationships between the children and created an inclusive and warm environment for new comers.

