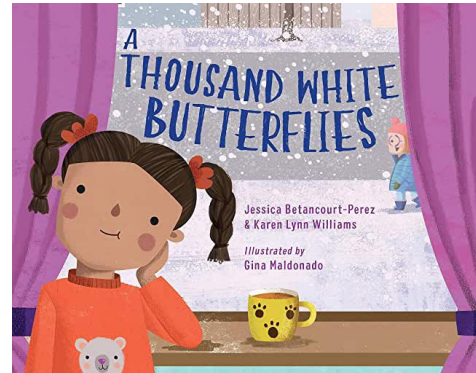


## A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR A THOUSAND WHITE BUTTERFLIES

This teacher's guide is designed to assist you in creating talking points and ideas for classroom activities in conjunction with school visits.



### A THOUSAND WHITE BUTTERFLIES

by Karen Lynn Williams and Jessica Betancourt-Perez

### THEMES IN THIS BOOK

- Family

There are many different kinds of families. In the story *A Thousand White Butterflies*, Isabella lives with her mother and grandmother. Who lives with you in your family? Isabella's father is unable to join Isabella and her mother in the United States. Have you ever had to live apart from a family member? How do you think it feels to be separated from family?

- Friendship

Have you ever had to start over and make new friends? What could you do to help someone who is new to your country? What could you do to make friends with someone who is new to your school or classroom? What do Isabella and Katie do to make friends. What things do they share?

- Immigration

A person who leaves their country to live in a new country is an immigrant. Do you have family members who immigrated from another country? What do you think it would feel like to move to a foreign country to live? What things do you think might be different in another country? What are some of the things Isabella misses about Colombia?

- Joy in Nature / Outdoors

There are several different references to nature and the outdoors in this story. Can you find some of them? How does Isabella feel about the trees without leaves? How does she feel about snow? How do her feelings change? Find some illustrations in the book that show how Isabella feels.

### VOCABULARY

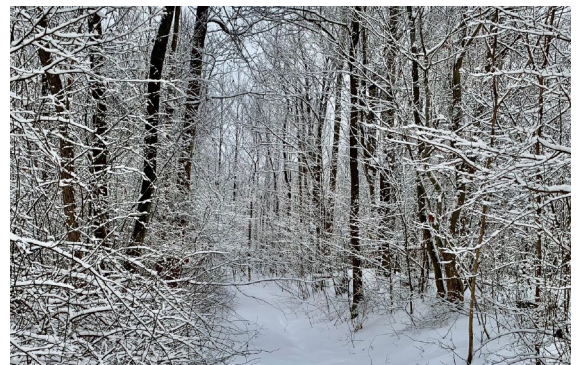
Permission

Perfect

Proud

Share

Canceled



*Snow-covered trees*

## A TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR A THOUSAND WHITE BUTTERFLIES continued

### SUBJECT AREAS IDEAS

- Art

Draw or paint a snowman or make a collage out of cut paper. Use paper plates or salt dough or marshmallows or egg cartons to sculpt a snowman. Dress him or her in something that is special to you.

- Social Studies/Geography

Find Colombia on a map. What continent is it on? What language do they speak in Colombia? Find some examples in the book. In the book Isabella has never seen snow before. Research what the weather is like in Colombia. The book mentions two kinds of clothing that are special in Colombia. Can you find them? Try making a Colombian snack. Here is one website with suggestions: <https://www.mycolombianrecipes.com/12-colombian-appetizers-and-snacks-you-must-try/>

- Science

In the story Isabella thinks the falling snow looks like a thousand white butterflies. Research the internet to see how snowflakes are formed. Read the book *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs. Isabella draws a heart in the steam on the window. What makes steam?

- Language Arts

How does snow make you feel? What does snow remind you of. Write a poem about snow.

Tell the class about a time when you missed someone or something very much. How did you feel? Who helped you during this time? What made you feel better?

Interview someone in your family or community who is an immigrant. Invite them to speak to your class.



*Snowman art projects*



*Colombia, with flag detail.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Karen Williams is available to speak and share her stories on this and many of her other books. Please visit [www.karenlynnwilliams.com](http://www.karenlynnwilliams.com) for more information on the books and other information about Karen.