

Teaching resource: Seed packets with Sita Brahmachari

Watch the recording of Sita Brahmachari's World Book Day event on the Get Islington Reading website, and make origami seed packets with your pupils, like Shifa in Sita's book *Where the River Runs Gold*. This activity is ideal for years 3 to 6, and can be used to support transition to secondary school.



You will need:

- 1) Access to the recording: literacytrust.org.uk/communities/islington/world-book-day-events
- 2) Square pieces of paper, one for each pupil. You can turn a sheet of A4 paper into a square using the tutorial here: [wikihow.com/Make-a-Square-Sheet-of-Paper](https://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Square-Sheet-of-Paper)
- 3) Felt tip pens or colouring pencils

- 1** Give each pupil a square of paper and colouring pens/pencils. As they watch the recording, ask them to decorate their sheet of paper with whatever doodles spring to mind, such as pictures, words, colours or shapes.



- 2 To make the paper squares into seed packets, first fold the paper into a triangle.



- 3 Fold the two bottom corners of the triangle towards the middle.



- 4 Tuck one corner into the other. You might need to help younger pupils with this step.



- 5 When you open the top of your seed packet you should find a little pocket between the top two points, which can then be folded over to close the packet.



- 6 Fill your seed packets. In *Where the River Runs Gold*, Shifa places metaphorical seeds for the future, as well as real seeds in her seed packet, keeping it close to her heart. Your pupils can use their seed packets to carry:

- A list of story ideas
- Hopes and dreams
- Favourite words
- Secrets
- Wildflower or sunflower seeds to scatter
- A list of favourite books
- Memories from primary school they would like to carry with them



If you are running this with a year 6 group as a transition activity, encourage your pupils to keep adding to their packets over the term, into the summer holidays, and as they start secondary school. They can carry comforting or empowering words, memories and ideas with them wherever they go.