



JOURNEY WITH ME THROUGH HONG KONG, MY HOME



A DEIJB LAB RESOURCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the DEIJB Lab

Objectives	4
DEIJB Lab Team	5
2023 DEIJB Summer Fellowship	7
A Letter from Adele Li, DEIJB Fellow '23	8
A Note from Sophie Yan, Co-illustrator and Cover Designer	10

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is representation important?	11
How were the women featured in the book selected?	11
What is the goal of sharing these women's stories with children?	12
Why are the women considered Hong Kong women?	13
How does this book address unconscious biases?	13
How to Use this Book	14

Activities

1 Abeer Tafuzzul	16
Favourite Foods Word Search; Greetings Tracing	

2	Christine Vicera	18
	Christine at Work; Art from the Philippines; Emotions Maze	
3	Divya Gurung	20
	I Spy: Divya's Desk; Colour in a Pangden; Write a Letter to Divya	
4	Jan Yumul	24
	Flag Tracing: The Philippines; Favourite Foods Word Search	
5	Omme Kulsoom Akhtar	26
	Emotions Maze; Follow my Journey	
6	Maitreyi Karanth	28
	Follow my Journey; Day in my Life:Sorting Activity; Write a Letter to Maitreyi	
7	Marites Palma	32
	Emotions Maze; Follow my Journey; Acts of Kindness	
8	Miles Sible	34
	I Spy: Miles' Desk; Miles at Work	
9	Pushpa Gurung	36
	Flag Tracing: Nepal; Follow my Journey; I Spy: Pushpa's Desk	

10	Rubina Riaz	38
	I Spy: Rubina's Desk; Write a Letter to Rubina	
11	Sa'Diyya Nesar	42
	St. Stephen's Beach: Spot the Difference; Colour in Sa'Diyya's Books	
12	Xyza Bacani	44
	Emotions Maze; Xyza's Camera	
	Match the Women's Photos to their Chapters	46
	Acknowledgments	48
	Global Centre for Pluralism	50

2023 DEIJB SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

The 2023 DEIJB Summer Fellowship, held from June to September 2023, was designed to raise awareness among student Fellows about the experiences and perceptions of ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong and to understand the impact and the adverse effects of implicit bias in education.

Drawing on Professor Kapai's 2015 and 2019 research data and analyses, Fellows were introduced to the structural and substantive dimensions of discrimination impacting equal access and inhibiting minority communities' enjoyment of their basic human rights in a range of spheres.

Throughout the Fellowship Programme, students uncovered gaps in the current educational system and participated in insightful workshops on conducting research, rendering contextual analysis, and solution ideation. This action-oriented learning experience empowered them to identify pressing concerns and develop innovative, interactive educational activities and games to engage students across different age groups with the goal of advancing awareness in relation to DEIJB issues impacting minority groups.

One of our fellows, Adele Li, inspired by the learnings of the Fellowship, developed these children's activities under the guidance of the DEIJB Lab team. This exemplifies the collaborative spirit and transformative impact of the Fellowship, offering fresh perspectives on the effect gender and racial biases can have, especially when they intersect, contributing meaningfully to advancing dialogues on equity and inclusion in classrooms and households alike.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

As educators or guardians, it might be difficult to navigate discussions with your child or student about topics that a majority of children have not yet encountered. Here are some questions that may arise and suggestions on how you might deal with them.

WHY IS REPRESENTATION IMPORTANT?

Women, especially those from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds and abilities, have historically been underrepresented in children's literature. Ethnically diverse women are often portrayed negatively or overlooked entirely in many forms of media. The goal of this book is to share the stories of commendable women from diverse backgrounds in Hong Kong, ensuring that children, especially those from similar backgrounds, see themselves represented in literature through these role models in their formative years.

HOW WERE THE WOMEN FEATURED IN THIS BOOK SELECTED?

The women featured in this book come from a wide range of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds and abilities who have shown incredible resilience in breaking through fields where minority representation is often lacking. Their stories aim to show children that, no matter where you start, you can achieve great things. There were so many more women that we wanted to feature but it was not possible to showcase

all of their amazing journeys here. The hope is that we can build on this collection and tell new stories of inspiration from all walks of life in a future edition! Or perhaps you are inspired by your encounters and create an activity of your own after working through this book! You can also share names of more inspirational women for us to feature in a future edition!

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF SHARING THESE WOMEN'S STORIES WITH CHILDREN?

By sharing these women's stories, our hope is to expose children to multiple representations of diversity during their formative years. This not only offers them diverse role models but also helps them see that women from different ethnic and / or religious backgrounds and abilities who have achieved milestones in various fields. The goal is to shift narratives around those who have not had the same visibility or opportunities, or perhaps, have experienced negative visibility. This serves as a critical counter-messaging tool against stereotypes. By engaging in these interactive activities, we can foster a sense of inclusivity and awareness in children of all backgrounds from early on, when children are in their most impressionable years.

WHY ARE THE WOMEN CONSIDERED HONG KONG WOMEN?

Identity isn't just about where we were born—it is shaped by our family, culture, language, and life experiences. The women featured in this book are connected to Hong Kong in various ways, even if some of them weren't born here. It's important to understand that you can belong to many places at once, and you don't have to choose just one. Many of these women have families or experiences in Hong Kong, making them feel deeply connected to the city's rich and diverse communities.

HOW DOES THIS BOOK ADDRESS UNCONSCIOUS BIAS?

Unconscious biases are learned early in life from our surroundings, like media, books, or interactions with others. This book encourages children to engage with everyday aspects of life, such as the women's favourite foods, routines, and or children. The book is an important source of counter-messaging against the negative or narrow representations of racialised women and help children see that, despite differences, we share many things in common.



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HONG KONG
What is one place which is special to you?

