

Somerset Storyfest – ‘One Tree-Many Branches Refugee Project’



Somerset Storyfest visits schools and communities to enable children and young adults to meet with refugees and get to know them as individuals in order to be more informed, through listening, questioning, discussing and participating in creative and cultural activities.

Storyfest used their UKSPF funding to visit multiple local schools and engage the students in the stories of leaving home and resettling in the UK. After sharing their stories, the refugee volunteers led participatory arts-based activities for pupils to respond and reflect on what they heard, thought, and felt from the session.

UKSPF Achievements

13 events or activities supported

1403 schoolchildren engaged

Wider impact

Feedback from the schools Somerset Storyfest visited was very positive, demonstrating the thought provoking and inspiring nature of their work and how it really makes children think about and understand the plight of refugees:

“Wow! What an engaging and inspiring morning! Thank you so very much to you, Ali, Knud and Awet for bringing your stories and music to Clevedon School in such a creative and awe-inspiring way. The students and staff were absolutely mesmerised and we all agreed that it was such a valuable and worthwhile experience.”

“The children really enjoyed the song making workshop. Coming up with ideas and then working together to put their sentences into a linked song worked really well and they loved the freedom to rap a section too! The leaders came up with a melody

the children learnt very quickly and it was great then to be able to have some time to work on the performance aspects as well. Thank you!"

"Such an emotional, thought provoking and inspiring workshop. It certainly puts my own life experiences into perspective. I was moved to tears in parts and the children were engaged and in awe of the bravery and courage of the people involved. Thank you"