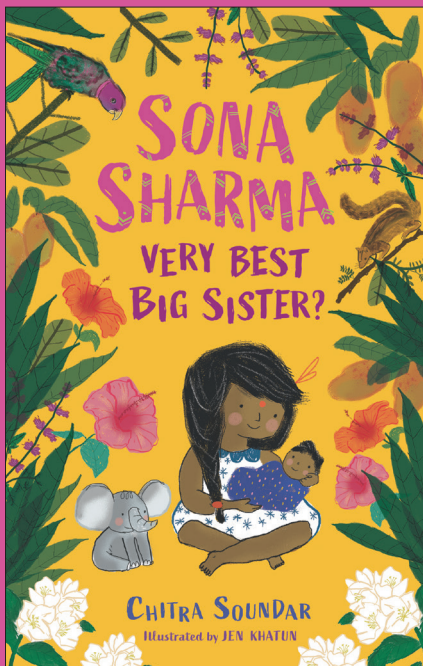


Can Sona be the best big sister ever when she's not sure she even wants a baby sister or brother? Brimming with warmth and charm, this story set in India will resonate with new older siblings everywhere.



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Use these discussion questions in your classroom to engage more deeply with the story.

SONA SHARMA

VERY BEST BIG SISTER?

- Sona worries about sharing her family with the new baby, and Elephant agrees that families are “not as easy to share as coconuts or bananas” (page 6). Do you agree? What would make sharing a family hard? What changes Sona’s mind about sharing?
- Sona goes to school in an auto-rickshaw. What else did you learn about Sona’s life in India? How is it different from your life? How is it similar?
- Thatha has a lot of sayings, including “Full stomachs make fine decisions” (page 29). Have you ever heard this? Do you think it is true? Why? Look for his other sayings and see if any are similar to sayings you know.
- Choosing a name for her sister is a big responsibility for Sona. How was your name chosen? What are some traditions used to choose the name of a baby in your community?



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