

# King for a Day

## A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

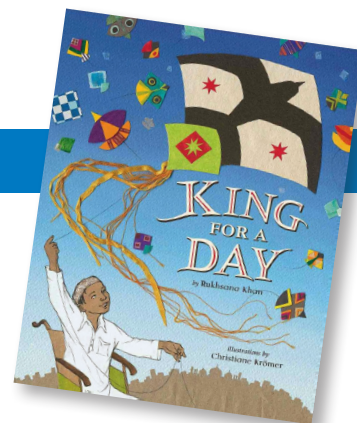
**Themes:** Bullying, Family, Kite Flying, Punjabi Culture

**Book Brief:** The Basant kite festival is here, and the sky is full of colorful kites all fighting to be the last kite flying. Can Malik and his one small kite win the day?

**Author:** Rukhsana Khan

**Illustrator:**  
Christiane Krömer

**Content Connections:**  
Science, Social Studies



## TIME TO READ!



### BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

**The Cover:** Have students make predictions about the book based on the title and cover illustration. What do they notice about the

boy on the cover? What does the phrase “king for a day” mean?

**The Pictures:** Flip briefly through the pictures. Where and when does this story take place? What is the main action of the story?

**Prior Knowledge:** Locate Lahore, Pakistan, on a map or globe. What do students know about Pakistan? Have any of the students ever flown a kite? Have they ever celebrated Basant? What about a different spring festival? Ask students why they think so many cultures have celebrations to mark the end of winter and the beginning of spring.

**Vocabulary:** Basant, Falcon, Goliath, bird of prey, triumph

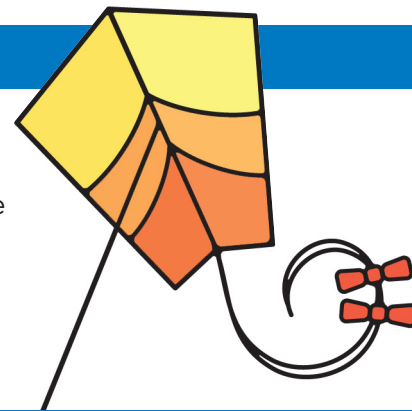
**Purpose for Reading:** As we read, think about how Malik is able to become king for a day using his special kite and his skills at flying.

## WHILE WE READ

### MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ How does the bully treat Malik and his sister?
- ◆ What do you think is the secret of Malik’s “special string”?
- ◆ What does Malik do to the other kites?
- ◆ Why is Malik’s sister the queen of Basant?

- ◆ What do Malik’s brother and sister do with the kites he knocks down?
- ◆ Why do you think Malik gives the little girl Goliath?



## LET'S THINK ABOUT

**Our Purpose:** What do you think Malik’s life is like most of the time, based on his relationship with the bully next door? How is Malik able to become the king of Basant and defeat the bully? Do you think the bully will be nicer to Malik and his sister from now on? Why or why not?

**Extending Our Thinking:** Has anyone ever bullied you? How did you react? Malik’s bully hit him and threw stones at his sister, but Malik didn’t hurt him or say mean things to him in response. Instead, Malik showed he was the better kite-flyer and won the bully’s kite. What would you have done if you were Malik? Imagine a different ending to the story where Malik has a conversation with the bully after the festival about the bully’s behavior. What do you think Malik would say? What would the bully say? Act out your new ending with a partner.

### NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is  
Fundamental