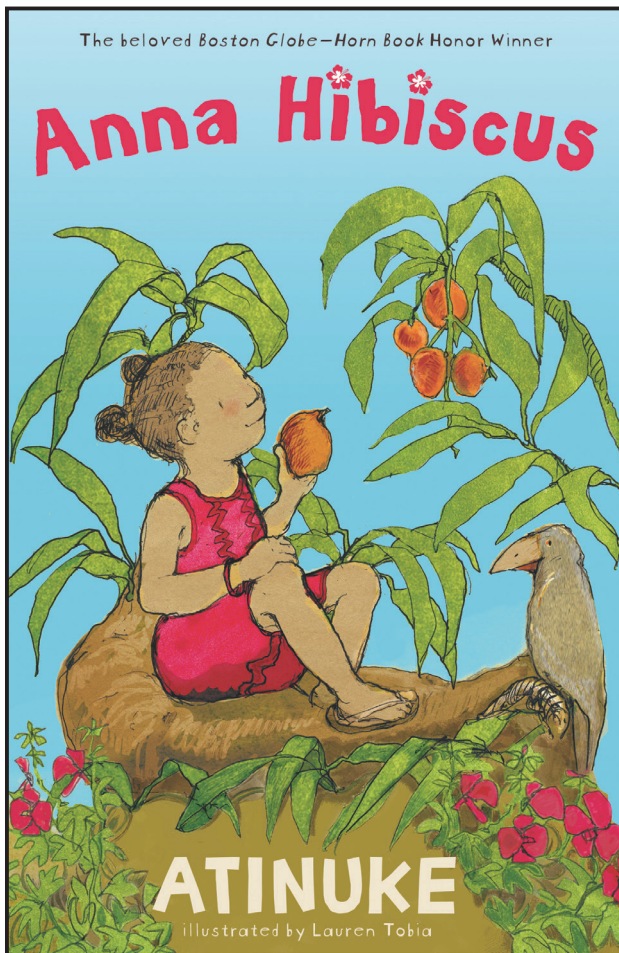




Anna Hibiscus

ATINUKE

illustrated by Lauren Tobia



Anna Hibiscus lives in Africa, amazing Africa, with her mother and father, her twin baby brothers (Double and Trouble), and lots of extended family in a big white house with a beautiful garden in a compound in a city. Anna is never lonely—there are always cousins to play and fight with, aunties and uncles laughing and shouting, and parents and grandparents close by. Readers will happily follow as she goes on a seaside vacation, helps plan a party for Auntie Comfort from Canada (will she remember her Nigerian ways?), learns firsthand what it's *really* like to be a child selling oranges outside the gate, and longs to see sweet snow.

As you read *Anna Hibiscus* with your students, use these discussion questions and activities to help them engage more deeply with the story and to learn more about Nigeria, where Anna Hibiscus lives.

HC: 978-1-5362-2519-8 • PB: 978-1-5362-2523-5

Also available as an e-book and in audio



CANDLEWICK PRESS

Anna Hibiscus Classroom Discussion Questions and Activities • www.candlewick.com • PAGE 1

Illustrations copyright © 2010, 2022 by Lauren Tobia

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. Anna Hibiscus has a large and loving family. How do you define a family? Who is included in your family? Does your family have any similarities to Anna's family?
2. Anna desperately wants to see snow. Have you ever wanted to experience something badly? What did you do?
3. Why does Anna Hibiscus envy the girls who sell oranges? What lesson does she learn after her grandfather finds out what Anna did? How might the girls feel?
4. Why are Grandmother and Grandfather unhappy that Auntie Comfort changed her name to Yemisi? Do you think it is fair that they want Auntie Comfort to be a traditional African lady? How does Auntie Comfort feel about this? Why?

ACTIVITIES TO GET TO KNOW NIGERIA!

With your class, locate Nigeria on a map. Note where it is in Africa and which countries surround it. Also, reference the map *How Big Is Africa?* (<https://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/teachingresources/geography/curriculum/curriculum-guide/>) to give students an idea of how big the continent is.

Once they know a bit about Nigeria's geography, have your students learn more about the country through research using print materials and/or the internet. Some potential topics include people, languages spoken, geographical areas, and what life is like for a Nigerian child today. Students can do this work independently, in pairs, or in small groups. Then have them present their work in spoken presentations, essays, posters, or another way so that classmates can learn from one another. After the presentations are completed, have a discussion about similarities and differences between the research and what students learned from reading *Anna Hibiscus*.

This guide was prepared by Dr. Kimberly N. Parker, director of the Crimson Summer Academy at Harvard and cofounder of #DisruptTexts.

