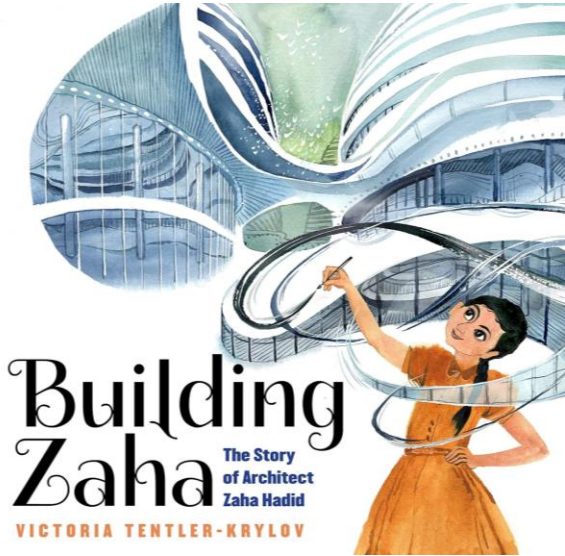


Discussion Guide for Families



Building Zaha: The Story of Architect Zaha Hadid

Author: Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Illustrator: Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Themes: Environment and Sustainability

Book Brief: Zaha Hadid, a visionary architect from Baghdad, overcame barriers as a woman and a person of color in a male-dominated field. Despite criticism and resistance, she persisted, achieving global fame for her innovative and groundbreaking designs.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child "Zaha Hadid said, 'You really have to have a goal. The goal posts might shift, but you should have a goal.' What do you think she meant by this? What kind of person do you think Zaha might be based on this quote?"

While Reading: Make Connections

- What were some of Zaha's interests as a child, and how did these interests inspire her dreams of becoming an architect?
- How did Zaha stand out to her professors, and what made her different from most women of her time?
- The book says, 'Though Zaha had won, the goalpost had moved.' What does this mean, and how does it connect to what we discussed before reading?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Zaha's critics doubted her designs, saying they couldn't be built, but she proved them wrong. Can you think of a time when someone doubted you? How did it feel, and what helped you show them what you could do?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF's [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.