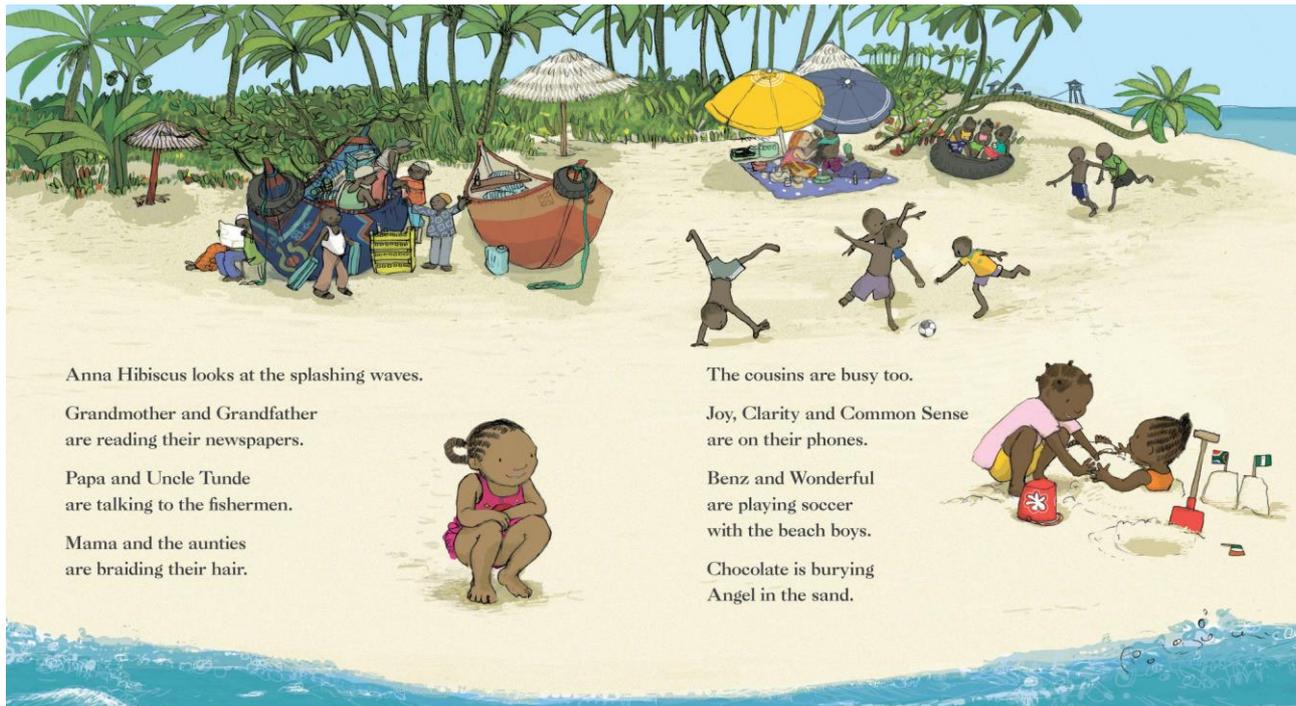


Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Splash, Anna Hibiscus! by Atinuke, illustrated by Lauren Tobia (Walker)

1. Explore it

Read the spread below, taking time to look carefully at the illustration and the text:



What do you think is happening here? What do you think you know about the girl at the water's edge and all the other people mentioned and shown? Where do you think this is happening, whereabouts in the world might it be? Have you been to a beach like this? What do you like about the place you see here? What do you think this little girl — and the people who are with her there — likes about it? How do you think she might be feeling?

Now look at the front cover above and read the title. Why do you think this book might be called *Splash, Anna Hibiscus!*? On the cover do you think she is enjoying being in the water? How do you know? Do you think she is feeling the same about the water in the main illustration, which is from the start of the book? Why? Think about your own life in relation to the book: have you ever been to the beach before? If you have, what was it like? Did you go in the water? What feelings did you have before you went in? If you haven't, would you like to? How do you think you would feel about going into the sea? A grown up could talk with you about going to the seaside, helping you remember what it was like, or helping you find out what is good about it, and what's not so good.

2. Illustrate it

Look again at the main illustration. Anna Hibiscus and her extended family are all enjoying different things you can do at the beach: what kind of thing would you enjoy doing? What about any brothers or sisters, cousins, aunts or uncles, and grandparents you have: what would they like to do? If you don't have a large

family like Anna Hibiscus, you could think about your classmates or teachers: what do you think they'd like to do? You don't have to limit yourself to what you see in the picture, there's plenty more you can do at the beach: eating or drinking special food, playing different sports or games, making sandcastles, sunbathing, collecting rocks or shells, exploring rock pools... Take some paper and any drawing materials you have to hand and have a go at drawing the scene when you and your family or friends go the beach.

Share your drawing with someone and talk about what you imagined. What do you and they like about it? Do they agree with the way you have imagined it? Can they suggest anyone or anything you could add? Is everyone doing something? Who is doing something in a group; who's with just one other person; is anyone doing anything on their own, like Anna Hibiscus?

3. Talk about it

- Look at the names that start with a capital letter: these are people's names, like Aнна, Benz, and Common Sense (ABC!). Choose your favourite name on the page, and see if you can think of any other words that start with the same sound, e.g., Mama, mat and mess; or Wonderful, water and wet? Say these words out loud so that you can hear and recognise the sound at the start of these words.
- Why do you think Anna Hibiscus 'looks at the splashing waves'? We know she goes in the sea later on, but what might she be thinking in the illustration here? Do you think she has been in the sea before?
- Did you notice that Anna Hibiscus is the only one who isn't with someone else? Do you think she minds, or does she seem quite happy on her own? How would you feel if you were her?
- Would looking at the waves make you happy, or kicking a football or playing in the sand? What makes you happy? Do we all enjoy the same things?

4. Imagine it

Look again at your picture of your imagined day at the beach. You've shown what it looks like, but what would it sound like? Think of all the different sounds you might be able to hear, made by the sea, the sand or pebbles, the wind, seagulls, as well as all the people in the picture. How will you use your voice to make the different sounds, loud or quiet, harsh or soft, long or short? Can you make sounds for the different parts of your picture just with your own voice? Ask someone else to make a sound to match part of your picture, but without telling you which part: how does it sound, do you know which part they are making the sound for? Can you make a soundscape together with the different sounds you can make?

5. Create it

Think back to the title of the book: *Splash, Anna Hibiscus!* 'Splash' is a word that sounds like the thing it describes, like 'beep', 'whack' or 'hiss'. Can you think of any other sounds like this that you might hear at the beach? Looking at the illustration by Lauren Tobia, or your own picture, might help you to think of some.

Compose a poem made up of the sounds you hear at the beach. Can you write it down for someone else to read? Ask someone to help you write it out and practise reading it together. Can you add actions to make it even more fun? If someone in your house has a mobile phone, you could record your poem and send it to someone with your picture like a postcard!