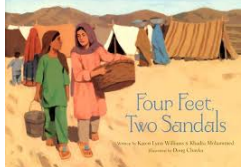


Optimism

Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.

Ecclesiastes 11:4

Family Book



Authors:

Karen Lynn Williams &
Khadra Mohammed

Illustrator:

Doug Chayka

Setting and History

Clues:

Vocabulary

Floodplain:

Refugee:

Resettlement:

Afghanistan



Questions

Think about the two times that Feroza gave Lina her sandal. What is the difference between these two times?

Do you like the way the story ended? Why or why not?

Bibliography

Operation World
Jason Mandryk, 7th ed.

Financial Times World Desk
Reference (DK)

Songs & Video (YouTube)

Girl in the World: Floodplain
Floodplain (Sara Groves)
Geography Now: Afghanistan

A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.

Proverbs 15:30

“Floodplain” - Sara Groves

*Some hearts are built on a floodplain, keeping one eye on the sky for rain.
You work for the ground that gets washed away when you live closer...*

*Closer to the life and the ebb and flow, closer to the edge of I don't know, closer to that's the way it goes...
Some hearts are built on a floodplain.*

*And it's easy to sign on a high bluff, look down and ask when you've had enough.
Will you have the sense to come on up or will you stay closer?*

*Closer to the danger and the rolling deep, closer to the run and the losing streak and what brings us to our knees...
Some hearts live here.*

*Oh the river it rushes to madness and the water it spreads like sadness and there's no high ground.
Closer to the danger and the rolling deep, closer to the run and the losing streak and what brings us to our knees...
Closer to the life and the ebb and flow, closer to the edge of I don't know, closer to Lord please send a boat...
Some hearts are built here.*

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

Consider Sara Groves' song “Floodplain” and her thoughts about it.

When she says “Some hearts are built on a floodplain,” what do you think she means?

What do you think might be the relationship between floodplains (real or metaphorical) and optimism?

How might the Afghan people's experience with real floodplains have helped shaped their resilience?