

Discussion Questions



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These questions explore how meaning is created and communicated through Benjamin Zephaniah's poem *What Stephen Lawrence Has Taught Us* and its presentation in this illustrated book, as well as the message it conveys and the impact it may have on readers.

How does Benjamin Zephaniah's poem shape our understanding of the events, compared to a straightforward factual account?

How do the illustrations influence how we interpret Zephaniah's original poem?

Which is your favourite illustration and why?

Is there a line in the poem that you found particularly powerful? Why did this line stand out to you?

Why might it be important to revisit and present this poem to a new audience years after it was first written?

What responsibility, if any, does the book place on the reader after engaging with Stephen Lawrence's legacy?

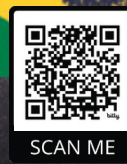
What kind of change do you think the book could inspire?

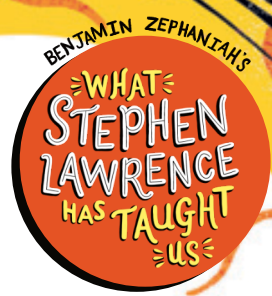


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Illustrating a Poem

Choose a short poem, or a few lines from a poem, that means something to you. This could be a section from *What Stephen Lawrence Has Taught Us* or another poem you connect with.

Write the poem, or chosen lines, neatly in the centre of a piece of paper.

Around the words, add illustrations inspired by the poem. Think about the words, ideas and feelings in the poem.

As you create your artwork, think about:

- 🔥 What pictures could show the poem's message?
- 🔥 How could colour, shape or symbols help show its meaning?
- 🔥 Which words or lines are most important? How could you make them stand out?



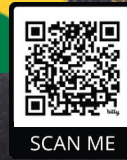
***Be ready to explain
how your illustrations link to the
poem and what you want the
reader to think or feel.***



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