**Activities for…  
Oranges in No Man’s Land by Elizabeth Laird**

**Activity 1**

Write your own news report informing people of the situation in modern Lebanon. Use information from books and the internet to try to understand the origins of the conflict. Include pictures, maps and photographs if you like. Remember that *Oranges in No Man’s Land* was written in 2006. Have things improved in the country since then? Also, do you really think the best way to deal with the differences of the Lebanese people is to separate them? Can you think of any better ways of dealing with their different political and religious beliefs?

**Activity 2**

When Ayesha crosses the Green Line to the other side of Beirut, Dr. Leila allows her to dine in her house. But not everyone is happy about her being there. Imagine if Ayesha came to stay with your family. Write a story that portrays Ayesha seeking refuge in your house for a day. Would she be welcome? Would she get along with all of your family?

**Activity 3**

When Ayesha notices the ambulance rolling into town with the English letters ‘UN’ on the side, even though she can’t read English, she’d seen them enough to know what they meant. UN (United Nations-Protection).She finds these internationally recognisable letters very reassuring. Can you think of any more pictures, symbols or letters that are known all over the world e.g. the M for McDonalds, the skull and crossbones, the Red Cross? What do they represent? Try to make a list of symbols that give out a positive message and those that give out a negative one. Now try to design a symbol for something you think is important to the world. See if the group can work out what it stands for. Do you think somebody from Lebanon would understand what it means too?

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