

Shireen the Sparrow

Learns Allah's Name al-Alim

I'M LEARNING ALLAH'S NAMES

Written: Nur KUTLU
Illustrated: Süleyman ÖZKONUK



Dear Parents and Educators,

It is very important that our children are introduced to concepts of faith at a young age so that when they grow up, they can use these concepts to make sense of the things they experience. With this idea in mind, we set out to prepare this series, "I'm Learning Allah's Names". We tried to open a window to the names of Allah from the world of children using the animal heroes and their adventures in the stories. In the last pages of our books, you will also find questions and pictures which can be used to ensure that your children understand the concepts introduced in the book. There are also discussion topics under the "explain to your children/ask them" heading.

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TİMAŞ KIDS

Timaş Basım Ticaret ve Sanayi AŞ
Alay Köşkü Cad. No: 5 Cağaloğlu, İstanbul - Turkey
Telephone: (0212)511 2424 (pbx) Fax: (0212) 512 4000
Timaspublishing.com - info@timaspublishing.com



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I AM A LITTLE SPARROW!



You might have sometimes seen me flying around you. I am not so pretty to look at. I also do not have a nice voice. That is why people usually do not put us in cages. Hunters also ignore us because we do not give them much meat. In fact, our biggest problem is naughty children. They always leave traps for us.

We sparrows eat grain, or the crumbs people drop, or even small bugs. We make our nests in trees. We also make them in the holes of high walls or buildings. Even though we are a little shy, we love all the children!







It was a sunny day in the forest. While all the creatures enjoyed the warm weather, Shireen flew back and forth. She seemed to be in a big hurry. A squirrel noticed that Shireen seemed very rushed.

"Hey you sparrow!" shouted the squirrel. "What are you up to today?"

At first Shireen was a little surprised by the squirrel's question.

"You mean why I am flying all over the place?" asked Shireen. The squirrel laughed.

"Of course! You are the only one who can answer this question," laughed the squirrel.







Shireen became annoyed at the squirrel's rudeness. She began to flap her wings. The wind from her wings made the squirrel lose his balance. If he hadn't grabbed hold of Shireen's beak he would have fallen out of the tree!

"O squirrel! I wish you knew how excited I am. I am building a nest for the first time. Soon I will lay eggs," said Shireen.



The squirrel knew that Shireen really had her work cut out for her. Be he also knew that Shireen was very forgetful.

"Just take it easy," said the squirrel. "You can do it!"

