



## Live as a Syrian refugee



A **refugee** is a name given to people who are forced to leave their home and country to escape war, persecution or natural disaster. Many of them cannot return home or are afraid to do so. The UN estimates that there are currently 65 million refugees around the world right now. Civil war broke out in Syria in 2011 and it is believed that there are around 4.8 million Syrian refugees.

Read Siba's story:

My name is Siba. I fled from southern Syria after life became too dangerous for us. The turning point came when a bomb went off and my father was injured in the face and hands. After that, the whole family fled to Jordan. My parents are still there. But I came to Europe with my brother and sister, who is six years-old. All I long for is to have a peaceful life for me and my family. I hope to go to Germany. I also dream of being reunited with my parents. You can read more refugee stories here: <https://www.actionaid.org.uk/school-resources/resource/refugees-in-their-own-words>

Now put yourself in Siba's shoes. Imagine war has broken out here in Wales. You have 15 minutes to pack your suitcase - you can only take six items.

What will you choose to take? Remember refugees do a lot of walking; expensive items may attract unwanted attention or even be stolen. Think carefully about the items - will you take a photograph of your loved ones, food for the journey or a smart device to play games.

Task: Draw an outline of a suitcase like the one below in your exercise book and fill it with six essential items (you can draw these). Write a paragraph giving reasons for your choices.

