How I Learned Geography

for the book by Uri Shulevitz

Discussion Guide
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What was the family able to take with them when the war began and they had to run away?
What was their new house like?
With whom did the refugee family have to share their house?
Did the boy have any toys or books?
What would you do without toys or books (or electronic devices)?
Where did the boy sleep?
What did the father bring home for dinner instead of food one day?
How did the boy feel about getting a map instead of dinner?
How large was the map?
How did the map help the boy get through the rest of the war?
What was the family able to take with them when the war began and they had to run away? The family could take nothing with them.

What was their new house like? It was hot in summer, cold in winter, and made of clay, straw and camel dung.

With whom did the family have to share their house? A couple they did not know, or two people.

Did the boy have toys? No. Books? No.

What would you do without toys or books? Answers will vary.

Where did the boy sleep? On the floor.

What did the father bring home for dinner instead of food one day? A map.

Did the other family have food that night? No.

Was the boy mad about the map at first? Yes.

How big was the map? As big as the wall.

How did the map help the boy? He traveled the world in his imagination to pass the time.

The coloring pages are about some of the things the boy imagines when he studies the map.