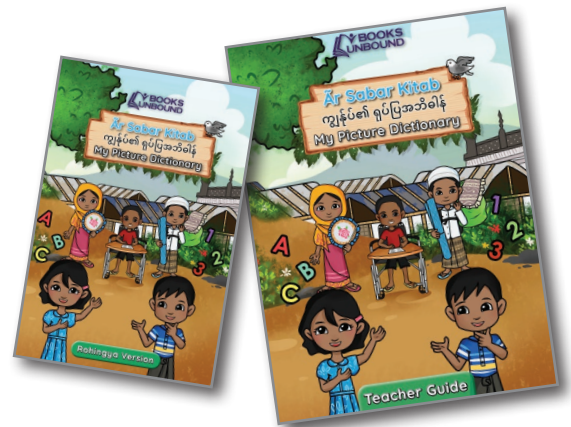


Project:

Picture Dictionary & Teacher Training

January - July, 2026



530 
Students Reached

530 
Books Distributed

30 
Teachers Supported


Rohingya
Community


Kutupalong
Bangladesh



Program Description

We believe learning should happen anytime, anywhere—especially in context of displacement.

That's why we created our Picture Dictionaries: simple, versatile resources that can be used at home, in classrooms, etc. By combining practical vocabulary with culturally relevant illustrations, our dictionaries provide an immediate learning tool that helps bridge educational gaps, supports language development, and brings education to

children when formal schooling is available.

The Rohingya Picture Dictionary was created to support Rohingya children and families by providing practical vocabulary in Rohingya, Burmese, and English. Designed for use in community programs and at home, it promotes language development while celebrating and preserving Rohingya culture and identity.

What We Did

- Trained **30 Rohingya teachers** through our 10-session Picture Dictionary Teacher Training Program (Classes 21–23).
- Equipped each teacher with a Picture Dictionary **Teacher Guide** to support classroom implementation.
- Distributed **530 Rohingya Picture Dictionaries** to students participating in the program.
- Provided **530 notebooks and pens** to encourage continued learning and practice at home.
- Prepared for Class 24, which will train an additional **10 teachers** and distribute **170 more Picture Dictionaries** to students.

Our Rohingya Picture Dictionary was born out of relationships with Rohingya families displaced from Myanmar. Designed alongside the community, it celebrates their culture and language while creating meaningful learning opportunities through relatable illustrations and practical vocabulary.



“My name is Fatima and I am 12 years old. My Picture Dictionary is my best book because the colorful cartoons illustrate our Rohingya traditions, including women with thanaka on their faces and men fishing in the traditional boats. These images can make me proud of my culture and I recall about the stories which my grandmother tells about villages at home. It enables one to enjoy the process of learning just like a game. I apply it on a daily basis when conversing with my friends or even when teaching my little brother. The book identifies me with my background and makes me hope of a bright future. I love it so much!”

- **Fatema, Student**

Kutupalong, Bangladesh

30

Teachers Trained

20

hours per training

530

students reached

The impact of the Teacher Training Program continued long after the sessions ended. Follow-up surveys (3-6 months after trainings) showed that teachers were actively using the Rohingya Picture Dictionary in their communities, with nearly every respondent continuing to teach from their homes and community learning spaces.

Many reported applying the lesson plans and interactive activities from the Teacher Guide in their classes, while others shared that the training helped them secure new teaching opportunities. These results demonstrate that the program is creating lasting educational opportunities and expanding access to culturally relevant learning for Rohingya children.

Teacher Reflections

“The training changed the way I teach. I can now conduct my classes more effectively and help students learn through creative activities.”

- Teacher

Kutupalong, Bangladesh

“Books Unbound’s teacher training has transformed my teaching. I now use creative activities that make learning more engaging and effective for my students.”

- Teacher

Kutupalong, Bangladesh

“The teacher training increased my teaching confidence. The activities I learned have made a meaningful difference in my students’ learning.”

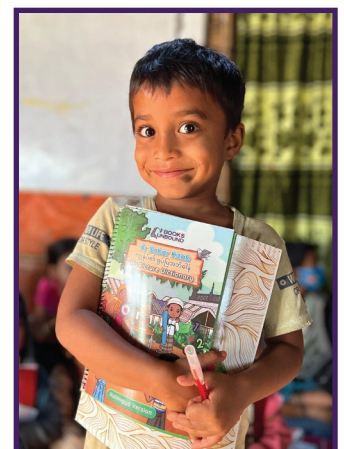
- Teacher

Kutupalong, Bangladesh

“I learned many creative teaching activities through the program, and I now apply them regularly in my classroom. They have been incredibly helpful for both me and my students.”

- Teacher

Kutupalong, Bangladesh



Why This Program Matters

Learning Continues Despite Crisis

Heavy monsoon rains and dangerous landslides have forced many learning centers in the refugee camps to close temporarily. Because the Picture Dictionary is designed for independent and family learning, children can continue building language skills safely from home.

A Book That Belongs to Them

Many educational resources available in Kutupalong do not reflect Rohingya language or culture. Children consistently shared that the familiar illustrations, traditional clothing, homes, food, and daily life represented in the Picture Dictionary made them feel seen, valued, and proud of their identity.

Strengthening Family Learning

Children reported reading with siblings, practicing new vocabulary with friends, and recalling stories shared by parents and grandparents. The book supports language learning while strengthening family connections and preserving cultural heritage across generations.

"I read the book both at home and in school. It assists me in reading and speaking."

— Soyed Amin, Grade 4

"I love reading My Picture Dictionary because the cartoons look like our life. I see houses like ours, the clothes my parents wear, and the food we eat at home. When I forget a word, I look at the picture and remember it easily. I even share the book with my younger sister, and we practice words together every day. I'll always keep this book close to me."

— Nur Sohaliya, Grade 4

"The cartoons in this dictionary are friendly and colorful. They reveal our culture, family and games. I feel the book is made for me. When I uncover it, I desire to acquire new words. I do it on a daily basis and attempt to use new words in sentences. This book is also favorite to my parents since I can learn with ease. English is not scary now. It feels like a friend."

— Nurul Amin, Grade 6

What's Next?

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, this program will continue throughout the remainder of the year. We are gathering teachers for Class 24 and have printed 170 Picture Dictionaries, ready for distribution.

We have designed Picture Dictionaries for numerous other communities, including Afghan, Somali, Mexican, Congolese, Venezuelan, and more. We will continue to design picture dictionaries based on the need and would love to host more Teacher Trainings in new communities.

Help us expand our impact. We're looking for organizations across Southeast Asia that work with Rohingya refugees and would benefit from our Rohingya Picture Dictionary.

If you have a connection or recommendation, please reach out to me (sophie@books-unbound.org).



1

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For direct questions/feedback, contact me:
sophie@books-unbound.org

