**A picture containing map

Description automatically generatedThe Proudest Blue**

By Ibtihaj Muhammad

**Key Stage 1**

**You will need:**

**PowerPoint slides, You Tube story or a copy of the book The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad.**

**Introduction**

This reflection develops last week’s theme of being proud of who we are. It focuses on a Muslim girl and her Hijab, or head scarf, and reminds us that we need to understand ourselves so that other people can understand us.

Ask the children to talk about their favourite colours and justify their choices.

What does the colour blue make them think of? Why? Is it a happy colour? How does it make you feel? Why? Is it a proud colour? Why / why not?

**The story**

Hold up the story The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad or look at **slide 1** of the PowerPoint.

Look at the front cover and ask the children what they ‘The Proudest Blue’ means.

**Slide 2** Look at the picture of Mum on the first page, what is she wearing? A Hijab means a veil and some Muslim women wear them when they’re outside their homes. Ibtihaj Muhammad says it’s a sign of her love for Allah. (Allah is the Arabic word for God).

**Slide 3** Read the story, or follow the link on the slide to the You Tube recording.

There follows a range of activities for this reflection, taking elements of the book. Teachers are advised to select the activities they may want to do depending on the age and maturity of the class. Alternatively, teachers may choose to reflect on these ideas with the children over a series of sessions.

**Slide 4** Do you think Asiya is proud of her Hijab? Why do you think this? What does Mum mean when she says that wearing a Hijab is a sign of being strong?

**Slide 5** Why are the bullies shown as silhouettes? Why do you think they are laughing at Asiya?

**Slide 6** What does the book mean by ‘the Hijab isn’t a laugh?’

**Slide 7** What do you think ofMama’s advice about not carrying around the

hurtful words that others say. Why do you think the words belong to the bullies?

**Slide 8** What sort of person do you think Asiya is? Why?

The author says that the parts of us that make us seem different are things we should celebrate – what do you think she means by this?

**Reflection**

**Slide 9** Christians also believe that it is important to stand up for what you believe in and to respect other people’s ideas and beliefs, even if you don’t share them.

What do you believe in? (Your family, your school, one of your school values?) When you’ve thought of something, stand up – like the children in the book stood up for what they believed in.

**Slide 10** Finish with the prayer below:

Dear God,

Thank you for the things that are important in our lives, our families and friends and our values. Help us to stand up for what we believe in and respect those who think differently.

Amen.