

Augustin's archaeologist friends, **Alex and Lisa**, appear for the first time in a science short story entitled "**Archaeologists without borders**". A short story that will delight young and old alike while helping them discover how **archaeology is a lever for bringing people together and teaching tolerance.**

8 THE DAILY STAR OUTLOOK WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2004



Palestinians work to preserve historic sites

Workers clear a Byzantine church in Jifsa
Palestinians built a fence and door to protect Magen al-Qasrawani in Azara

In The *Daily Star's Outlook Magazine*, PACE Director, Adel Yahya, reports on the work of Palestinian volunteers in preserving cultural heritage related to biblical history

© The Daily Star's Outlook Magazine, 2004

Archaeologists without borders a short story on tolerance and the applications of archaeology

Presentation of the short story

Summary of the story

Following a scientific meeting in Sweden, Norwegian archaeologist Ghattas Jerjes Sayej, who is also part of the Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange, contacts Alex and Lisa to invite them to participate in a very special mission. Despite the ongoing armed conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, the Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange needs people to lead a mission to study the site of Al-Jib, the biblical Gibeon, a city of ancient Israel, located north of Jerusalem, in the occupied territories. The mission does not end there. The archaeologists also have to make the population aware of their heritage so that they no longer use the remains as garbage cans. A wonderful opportunity for Alex and Lisa to put into practice their theory on the role of archaeologists in daily life. How will the arrival of these western foreigners in the middle of a sensitive territory be perceived?



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Keywords

literature, fiction, science short story, archaeology, tolerance, politics, respect, cultural heritage, tourism, economy

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A teaching sequence with the short story

This sequence is adapted for Primary School (2nd grade to 5th grade) and Middle School classes of any size knowing that it is about realizing groups of 5 students with a text and other students for figuration. The sequencing proposal focuses on Language, Arts, History and more as it requires into educational initiative entitled the [Common Base of Knowledge, Skills and Culture in France](#) as well as into the [Common Core State Standards Initiative in US](#) for a reading aloud project in a group involving teachers of national language, History/Geography and Physical and sports education.

- In **national language**, this project will mobilize the skills of understanding a text, reading aloud and memorization.
- In **History/Geography**, this project will mobilize the knowledge and skills of understanding human societies in time and space with their contemporary consequences.
- In **Physical and sports education**, this project will mobilize the skills of teamwork, task sharing and physical expression for the production of an artistic work such as a play.
- In **Moral and civic education**, this project will mobilize knowledge and skills that will allow students to understand the importance of respect and to act daily against hatred through the duty of remembrance as a lever for bringing people together.

This project can be presented to families in the form of a play, which you can organize using the example provided in [the resource *Reading, a child's play*](#).



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To learn more

- the other resources in Augustin's World, [see the corner for budding archaeologists](#).

- the world of Augustin, [see the official website of Christiane Angibous-Esnault](#), creator of the Augustin character (**in french only**)
- the *Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange* (PACE), see the English official website www.pace.ps
- the *Israeli-Palestinian Archaeology Working Group* (IPAWG), [USC-UCLA Israeli-Palestinian Archaeology Working Group](#)
- the origins of the fiction based on real facts related by Ghattas Jerjes Sayej, see his article "Can archaeologists intervene in public debate on urgent questions of a social, cultural or political nature? A reflection on the Israeli–Palestinian Archaeology Working Group (IPAWG)", *Archaeological Dialogues* 20/1, june 2013, p. 47-58 [OnLine] <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1380203813000093>

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