An urgent need for early learning opportunities

Rohingya children in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh and those in nearby host communities are missing out on critical opportunities for early childhood development (ECD) and education. Reaching them now with ECD services that include playful learning can help them overcome trauma and build lasting resilience so that they can develop to their full potential.

More than 900,000 Rohingya refugees have fled extreme violence in Myanmar, settling in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. More than half are children.

38% of displaced Rohingya refugee children in Cox’s Bazar reported always feeling sad, and having trouble sleeping because of memories of violence.

A window of opportunity

90% of brain development happens before the age of five.

Sesame Workshop’s research shows that education is a priority for Rohingya parents and caregivers.

88% of caregivers in Rohingya camps agree that play should be part of the learning experience.

From trauma to resiliency

Learning through play leverages children’s natural curiosity and helps them build academic, social, emotional, and physical skills. Meaningful engagement with a caregiver is key to children’s development and boosts the benefits of learning through play.
“Children’s intellectual power increases by playing. Their knowledge and understanding increase by playing.”

Caregiver in a Rohingya camp

We are working toward a future where holistic early childhood development and education programs are inclusive of every child experiencing crisis and displacement.

Through Play to Learn, Sesame Workshop, BRAC, the International Rescue Committee, and the LEGO Foundation will reach hundreds of thousands of Rohingya children and caregivers through direct services in homes and centers, and educational media that leverages the beloved characters of Sesame Street and a locally-grounded program delivery approach.

To learn more, visit sesameworkshop.org