Sesame Street is working on a new program. It will help refugee kids.

Elmo visits a camp in Jordan for Syrian refugees.
When Hanadi was 4, a bomb hit her school. Soon after, her family fled their home, in Syria. They went to nearby Lebanon to live as refugees. A refugee is a person who has fled his or her country because of war. Today, many refugees are from Syria.

In Lebanon, Hanadi signed up for school. But she was scared to go. Her story is not unusual. Around the world, there are more than 25 million refugees.

Sesame Street wants to help refugee kids. It teamed up with the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Together, they are creating a new version of Sesame Street. It will be especially for refugee kids.

“We don’t just want to help children learn letters and numbers,” Sherrie Westin says. She works at Sesame Workshop. That is the group that makes Sesame Street. “We want to help them feel less alone.”

Watch and Learn

Many refugees are not able to go to school. And even if they do go, many have fallen behind in their studies. “These refugee kids had to leave their home and everything comforting in their lives: their schools, their playgrounds, the places they love to go,” the IRC’s Sarah Smith says.

In the new version of Sesame Street, the Muppets will teach kids math and spelling. They will speak the refugees’ language. They will wear local clothes. Some may have been forced to leave their home. Kids will watch on a TV, computer, or mobile phone. The show will launch in 2019. It will reach 9 million kids. Hanadi may be one of them.
A WORLD OF MUSIC

People all over the world make music. Here are instruments from four continents. What is your favorite instrument?

This is a **MBIRA**. It comes from Africa. The instrument is a wooden board. The board has keys. They are made of metal. A player plucks the keys with his or her thumbs.

This is an **ACCORDION**. It comes from Europe. The instrument has a keyboard and buttons. There is a bag in the middle. It is filled with air. A player pushes the two ends together and presses the keys and buttons.

This is a **GUIRO**. It comes from South America. The instrument is made from a hollow gourd. It has ridges. A player scrapes the ridges with a stick.

This is a **DIDGERIDOO**. It comes from Australia. The instrument is a long tube. It is made of wood. A player blows into the tube. The player uses his or her lips to create different sounds.