

MOTC



سيف سبيس  
Safe Space

# Salem & Salma

## Meta Reading Guide



## Preface

The comics follow our curious twins, Salem and Salma, on humorous mishaps that take place as they discover how to stay safe in cyberspace. Events take place with the help of five traits manifested in an array of interesting forms, where they learn what to do and what to avoid when using the internet. Use these comics in your reading sessions with your primary school children to give them story and a lesson!

## The Reference content: The Comics

The Salem and Salma series consists of eleven animated episodes and eleven comic strips, each corresponding to one of the eleven themes being tackled on Safespace.qa, that aim to increase the awareness of the children aged 4-10 about cyber safety practices and provide support to their caregivers and educators in guiding them. The themes are:



**My Digital Identity**



**My Healthy Online Practices**



**Sensible Online Interaction**



**Challenges in Online Interaction**



**Respecting Online Privacy**



**Protecting Digital Information**



**Our Digital Rights**



**Our Values and Responsibilities**



**New Media**



**New Economy**



**Connected World**

## Tools of aid: The reading guides

We devised the reading guides to help you, as caretakers and educators, to ensure that your child gains the most benefit out of the reading experience. There are eleven reading guides corresponding to each of our eleven themes, as well as this meta-reading guide, which serves as an instructional tool to help you figure out how to best utilize the reading guides.



### BEFORE YOU READ

At the beginning of each reading guide, you will find a set of questions you could ask your child before they have had a chance to read the comic with you. These questions will serve as a stimulus that would encourage them to predict what the comic will be about.



### WHILE YOU READ

After that, there are certain instructions you can draw inspiration from about mannerisms to adopt while you read. Some examples would be: Changing your tone of voice according to the character speaking and morphing your facial expressions to mimic those of the character. The point of resorting to this method in storytelling is to help the child relate better and comprehend further not only what is happening, but how they are supposed to be reacting to it. Moreover, the lively narration would ensure the children stay engaged for longer periods of time.



### AFTER YOU READ

Then, you will find a set of questions to ask your child after you're done reading the comic with them. They encompass not only surface level questions that gauge the child's understanding of main events in the story, but also deeper level questions that inspire them to place themselves in the characters' shoes and think about how they would have handled different situations. In addition to that, the children are also asked about their own views and opinions in regards to behavior demonstrated by the characters and are requested to explain their point of view.



### BEYOND THE COMIC

Finally, we have an exercise that goes beyond the comic. It helps the children establish a link between what they learned from the reading session and their everyday life.

**Characters:** The twins

## Salem & Salma

The twins Salem and Salma are the heroes of our stories! Salma likes to tease Salem by constantly reminding him that she's two whole minutes older than him. **Salma tends to be energetic and slightly impulsive. She is brave and confident. Salem, on the other hand, is calm, gentle, and kind.** They both try to look out for each other whenever they think one of them is in danger.



The Traits



## حکيم Hakeem

**Hakeem, the owl, embodies the wisdom.** He pays close attention to the details and he always seeks to solve the problems. **His skeptic nature helps him spot red flags early on.** However, his skepticism can turn into paranoia at certain times.

## شاهين Shaheen

**Shaheen, our falcon, stands for courage. He is assertive, brave, and isn't afraid to express his opinion.** He always encourages the twins to **stand up to injustice and to take on responsibilities instead of being passive bystanders.** The one true disadvantage to being this straight forward is that sometimes, he could be blunt and he ends up being hurtful towards others.



## نور Nour

**Nour, the firefly, is a symbol of balance and mindfulness. She brings about a much-needed sense of equilibrium** when it comes to things like screen time and diplomatic methods to call out certain behavior that might not be wholly correct. Sometime, though, she could prove to be indecisive due to her deliberative nature.

## ريّان Rayyan

**Rayyan is a bit different from our other traits, as he is a shape shifting water drop!** A beacon of creativity and resourcefulness, his fluid form allows him to turn into whatever object is needed at the moment. **He's always coming up with witty solutions to our twins' problems and brings energy and spontaneity with him wherever he goes.** The only downside, however, is that he can be too energetic sometimes and it makes him distractible, but we think it adds to his charm and sense of wonder.



## جود Joud

**Joud is an oryx who stands for all things kindness and empathy. She is caring and strives to always do the ethical things and to comfort all those in need.** Her gentle predisposition puts her at a disadvantage, however, due to her tendency to think well of everyone and everything, so she can be naïve sometimes.



**NOW JOIN  
OUR HEROES**  
AS THEY EMBARK ON  
THEIR LEARNING JOURNEY  
**IN CYBERSPACE!**