

HOST A *Calling the Wind* STORYTIME!

GETTING STARTED

Start your storytime by asking the audience if they've ever had difficult feelings that they couldn't easily express. *Calling the Wind* deals with grief, but your attendees are free to discuss feeling angry, sad, or happy! If it's hard for them to think of anything, provide an example of your own. We suggest emotions like joy or mild anxiety; you can ease into deeper emotions.

DURING

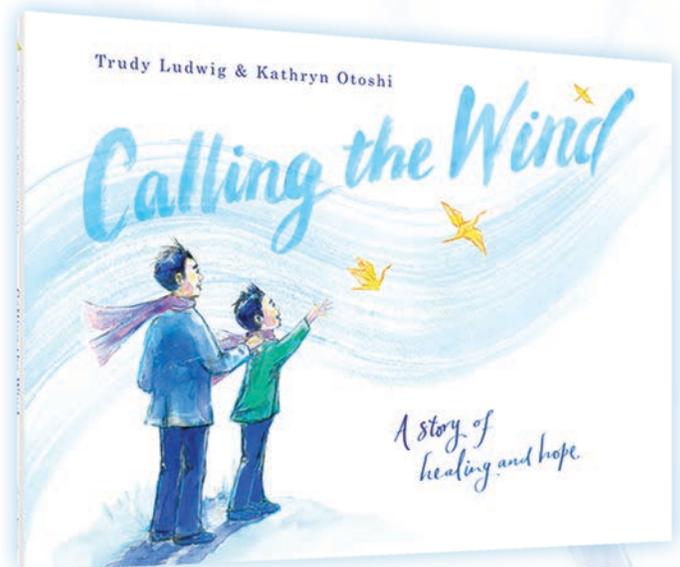
At the beginning of the story, pause and ask your audience what they think happened. Point to the empty seat at the table and the way the family separates after their meal. It's okay if your audience doesn't understand from the beginning.

Take a moment after each character visits the phone booth to ask attendees what they think the characters are doing and why. It's okay to use guiding questions like "Do you think they're actually talking to someone on the phone?" or "Do their words sound happy or sad?" Pull out key words like "mama" and "her favorite color" to help your audience if they haven't realized yet.

Lastly, ask if going to the phone booth helped the family. Did it help them say their last goodbyes? Or the things they never had the chance to say?

AT THE END

You've made it to the end of the story. *Calling the Wind* covers a sad topic, so even though the end is hopeful, try to end on a positive note. Does the audience agree that the family looks happier now? Do they think the little girl will get a puppy? You can use the first activity in this packet to mimic the family at the end of the story and make yellow paper cranes. We suggest having a few premade as examples for your audience.

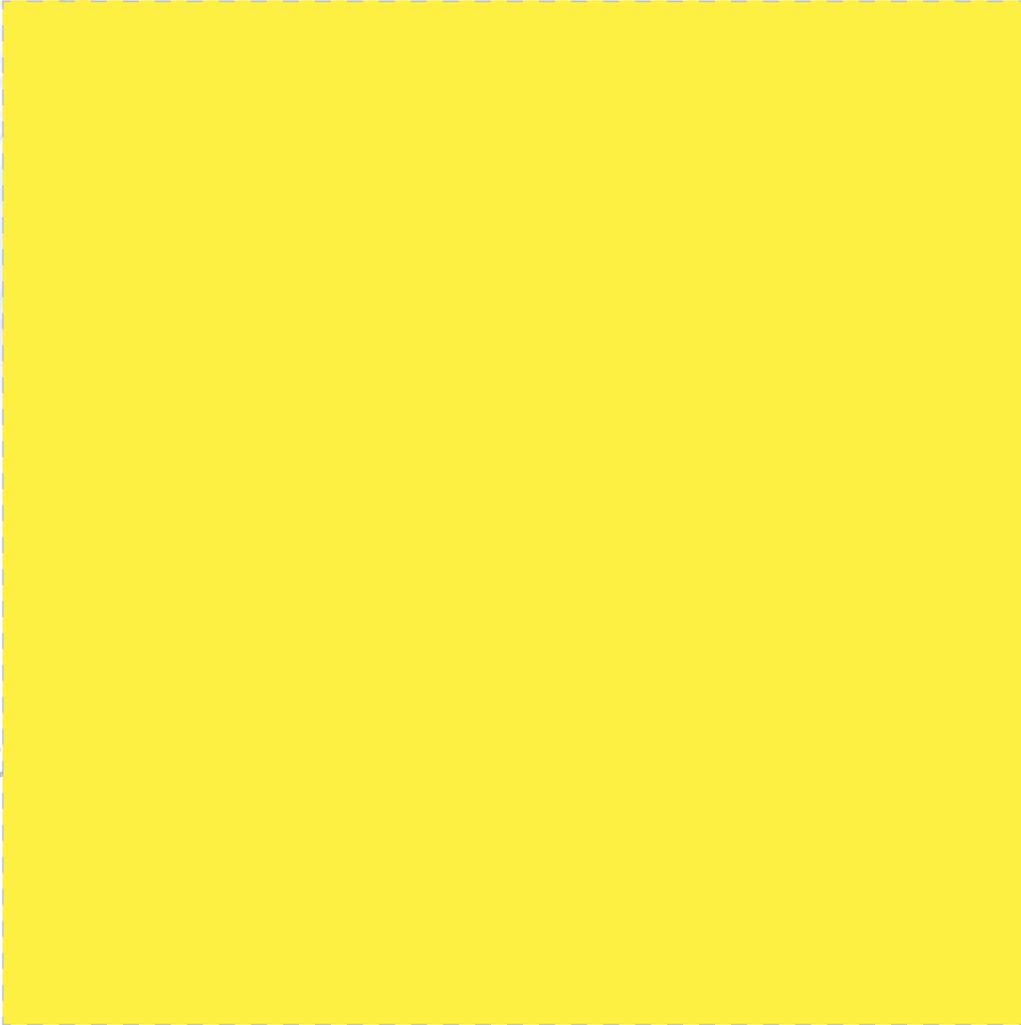


Use this QR code to
share our activities
with a digital audience.

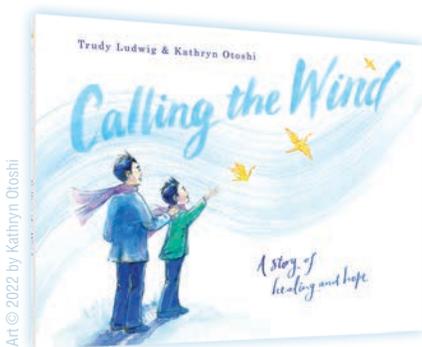


Folding Cranes

Yellow plays a key role in *Calling the Wind* by showing the family beginning to heal with the mother's favorite color. Scan the QR code below and use the yellow square to make a yellow crane like the ones found throughout the story.



If you want to make a perfect square out of construction paper, pull one corner across the page until you make a triangle. Line it up with the edge and press firmly along the fold. Then cut off the rectangle of paper at the bottom that isn't covered by the triangle. Unfold your paper and you have a perfect square!



What I Want to Say



In *Calling the Wind*, the family uses the phone booth to talk to a loved one who has passed away. It can be hard to lose someone and feel like you weren't able to tell them everything you wanted. The best way to combat that is to let the people in your life know how much you care for them. Finish the sentences below with things you want to tell your family, friends, teachers, or other people you care about.

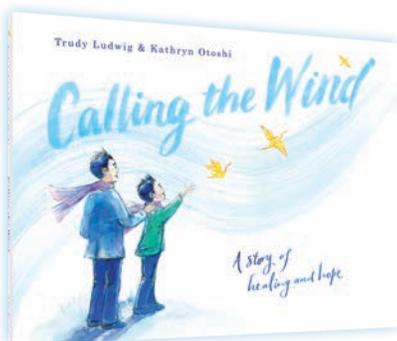
My favorite thing about you is . . .

When I see you I feel . . .

My favorite memory with you is . . .

The next thing we should do together is . . .

I hope we can . . .



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Start at the Root

The trees in *Calling the Wind* are a beautiful example of watercolor painting. Use the space below to paint your own forest using watercolor. Try to copy the color scheme shown in the book.

What you'll need:

Paint brushes • Newspaper to protect your work surface • Watercolors



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Alfred A. Knopf