

Telling Tales

EDUCATOR'S

GUIDE

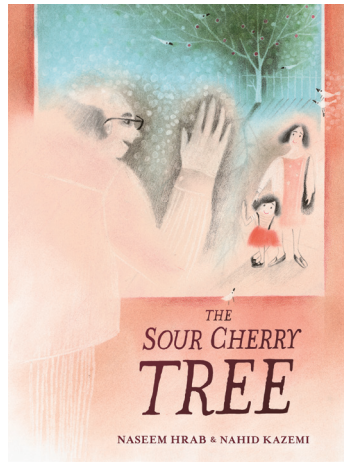
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Our thanks to the following partners who made this program possible.





THE SOUR CHERRY TREE

BY NASEEM HRAB

Ages: 4-8 | October 2021, Owlkids Books | **ISBN:** 9781771474146

Naseem Hrab is a writer and storyteller, and the author of the *Ira Crumb* series and *Weekend Dad*. Her comedy writing has appeared on *McSweeney's Internet Tendency* and *The Rumpus*. Naseem worked as a librarian for a time and now works in children's publishing. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

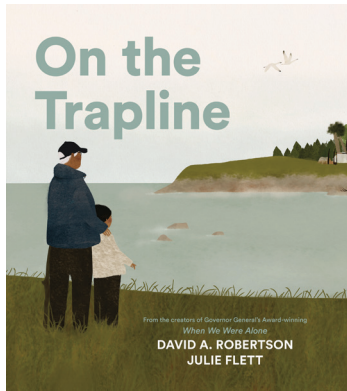
Naseem tells us about her grandmother and grandfather who both spoke languages other than English. She explains how these memories inspired her story *The Sour Cherry Tree*.

Q: Naseem shared a few examples of how she didn't need words to show her love for her grandparents. She mentioned enjoying a favourite meal together or giving a hug. Ask the class to brainstorm other ways we can show our love or friendship without using words or language.

Activity: Ask the class to draw a picture or make a gesture that they would use to show someone they care about them and love them.

Reflection/Extension: Ask the class whether any of them share Naseem's experience of speaking a different language than another family member, friend or neighbour. How do they communicate?





ON THE TRAPLINE

BY DAVID A. ROBERTSON

Ages: 4-6 | 2021, Tundra Books | **ISBN:** 9780735266681

David A. Robertson is the award-winning author of books for young readers, including *When We Were Alone*, winner of the 2017 Governor General's Literary Award, and *Strangers*, winner of the 2018 Michael Van Rooy Award for Genre Fiction (Manitoba Book Awards). In 2020, he published *The Barren Grounds* and a memoir, *Black Water*. A sought-after speaker and educator, David is a member of the Norway House Cree Nation and currently lives in Winnipeg.

A boy and Moshom, his grandpa, take a trip together to visit a place of great meaning to Moshom. A trapline is where people hunt and live off the land, and it was where Moshom grew up. Filled with questions, the boy learns the beauty of the land and the history of his family and elders. Moshom teaches his grandson, as well as readers, what it is like to live on the land and what the trapline means to their family.

Q: What are some differences the grandson notices between the trapline and the city where he lives?

Activity: Choose a place that is special to you and your family and draw it.

Reflection/Extension: What is a special story or interesting fact you have learned about your family? Did you hear it from a grandparent or a family friend? What made the story interesting?

Bonus Activity: What makes the place that you drew special to you and your family? Do you have any favourite memories you have made there?

ACTIVITY SHEET

A large rectangular area enclosed by a dotted line, intended for drawing or free writing.

A series of ten horizontal solid lines for writing.



ACTIVITY SHEET

A large rectangular area defined by a dotted line, intended for writing or drawing.

