**The Little Tree**

Muon Van, illustrated by JoAnn Adinolfi

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**Careful Reading:**

Why does the Little Tree send her Little Seed away?

Does the Little Seed want to leave?

What does the ending mean, that the Little Seed remembers the Little Tree?

**Topics for Discussion**

**Immigration/emigration:**

Read the author's note. Why does the author consider her mother to be like the Little Tree? Why is she like the Little Seed?

Immigration is a heated topic these days. What are reasons why people might leave their homes to come to another country? Are there good reasons and bad reasons?

Make a list of the 5 most important reasons to leave a place you grew up in. Now make a list of the 5 most important reasons to stay. Which list has the most weight for you? How would you choose to go or stay?

What difficulties might an immigrant face in their new country?

Imagine you've moved to a strange, new place you've never seen before. Make a list of what would be different (language, food, houses, transportation, etc).

Write a page describing how you feel, what worries, excites, interests, scares, and delights you.

Imagine you're the Little Seed. Write a letter home to your Little Tree and describe your new life.

**Environmental Changes:**

How has the Little Tree's home changed? What is causing the changes? Are they good changes or bad ones?

Have you seen environmental changes where you live? More buildings going up, fewer trees, more or less pollution?

What changes would you like to see? What changes would you like to stop?

Draw a picture or a map of your neighborhood. Label the parts you like and don't like. Now draw a picture of your ideal neighborhood. How do you want your world to look?

Make a list of things you can do to help clean up the environment (recycle, use less water, etc). See how many of those things you can do in a week, in a month.

Write a letter to the Little Tree about the work you've done to help the environment. Should you convince her to let her Little Seed go or stay?