

## Tiny Wonders

By Sally Soweol Han

Publisher: University of Queensland Press

ISBN: 9780702263477 SCIS: 5384625

\$24.99

Bursting with colour, *Tiny Wonders* is the story of a small child trying to bring wonder back to her town through the language of flowers, from talented Korean-Australian artist Sally Soweol Han.

April thinks if her town was a colour, it would be grey. Everyone is too busy to stop and look around. How can she help them slow down?

When she remembers the happiness that dandelions brought her grandmother, April comes up with a plan...

Bursting with colour, this is a sweet story about flowers, family and the wonders children wish for.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

**Themes:**

- Hope
- Flowers
- Patience
- Grandmothers
- Happiness
- Community
- Beauty
- Action

**Discussion Questions and Activities:**

- What does April mean when she says, 'If my town was a colour, it would be grey'? With a partner, discuss what might be making it grey. How could this be changed? How would you describe the colour of your hometown? Why have you described it this way?
- *Tiny Wonders* is a story about slowing down to enjoy the beauty that surrounds us every day. With your class, go on a nature walk around your grounds. Take photos of the various pockets around your school that give you joy. Use these photos to create a photo journal to share with other classes.
- What can we learn about the importance of patience from *Tiny Wonders*? Which page openings help share this theme?
- Describe the relationship between April and her grandmother. How does it help give April the courage to act? What role do your grandparents play in your life? What have you learnt from them? How have they helped shape your ideas about happiness?
- Grandma tells April 'the world is full of wonders'. In small groups, create a pictograph of small wonders found in our world. Display these in your classroom.
- What do you wish for? How might you be able to make that wish come true? Share with a friend.
- When the dandelions finally bloom, so too does happiness. At the same time, the sweeper stops sweeping and the bus driver tries to stop sneezing. What is the connection between the flowers blooming, happiness and people stopping for a moment? What is the author's purpose in creating this story?
- Which is your favourite page opening of *Tiny Wonders*? Why is this your favourite? Share with a friend.
- Create a simple flow chart that shows the cause and effect between flowers and happiness.
- Compare the first page opening with the last. What has changed? How has this change been made possible?
- What does the bunch of flowers on the front cover remind you of? Why do you think the flowers have been depicted in this way?
- In what ways is April herself a 'tiny wonder'?
- How do April's actions help her community? What can we learn from April?
- Consider planting and creating your own class garden. Investigate the life cycle of a flower.