



# My Valley



written and illustrated by Claude Ponti  
translated from the French by Alyson Waters

## Educator's Guide

### I Spy...

While you read, play I spy.  
*My Valley* is full of fun, colorful,  
tiny details. On each page, see if  
there are things you notice when  
you look closely that you didn't  
spot at first.

Can you find...  
a telescope  
a cup full of toothbrushes  
a tea party in a tea cup?

What else do you find?

### Plant a House-Tree

Plant your own House Tree.  
Remember, House Trees don't  
grow just any old way. You have  
to know how to plant them in  
the right spot and take good care  
of them.

Cut a tree shape out of  
construction paper, and fill your  
tree with rooms. What happens  
in each room? Who lives here?





## Your Valley

Poochie Blue gives us a detailed tour of their valley – including a map showing all their favorite spots! What would your valley look like? Make a map, using crayons, markers, paints, or even go 3D with play-dough. Imagine you are making the map for someone who has never been to your valley before. Don't forget to include the most important places: where do you like to play? To sleep? Where do you go when you are sad or mad? Where do you go to learn? Are there spots only you know about?

Poochie Blue and the Twims have adventures all over their valley. Write or tell a story about one of the spots on your map. What are some special memories you have in this place?



## Middling Wind Whispers

In *My Valley*, the Middling Wind carries stories from one Twim to the next. By the time it gets to the last Twim, the story is completely different. Sit in a circle. The first person whispers a story to the person on their left. In whispers, the story gets passed all the way around the circle. The last person tells the story out loud. Is the story still the same?

For older kids, have the kids pass around a piece of paper. Each person writes one line of a story, adding on to what came before it. The very last person reads the story out loud start to finish, with every line included.

