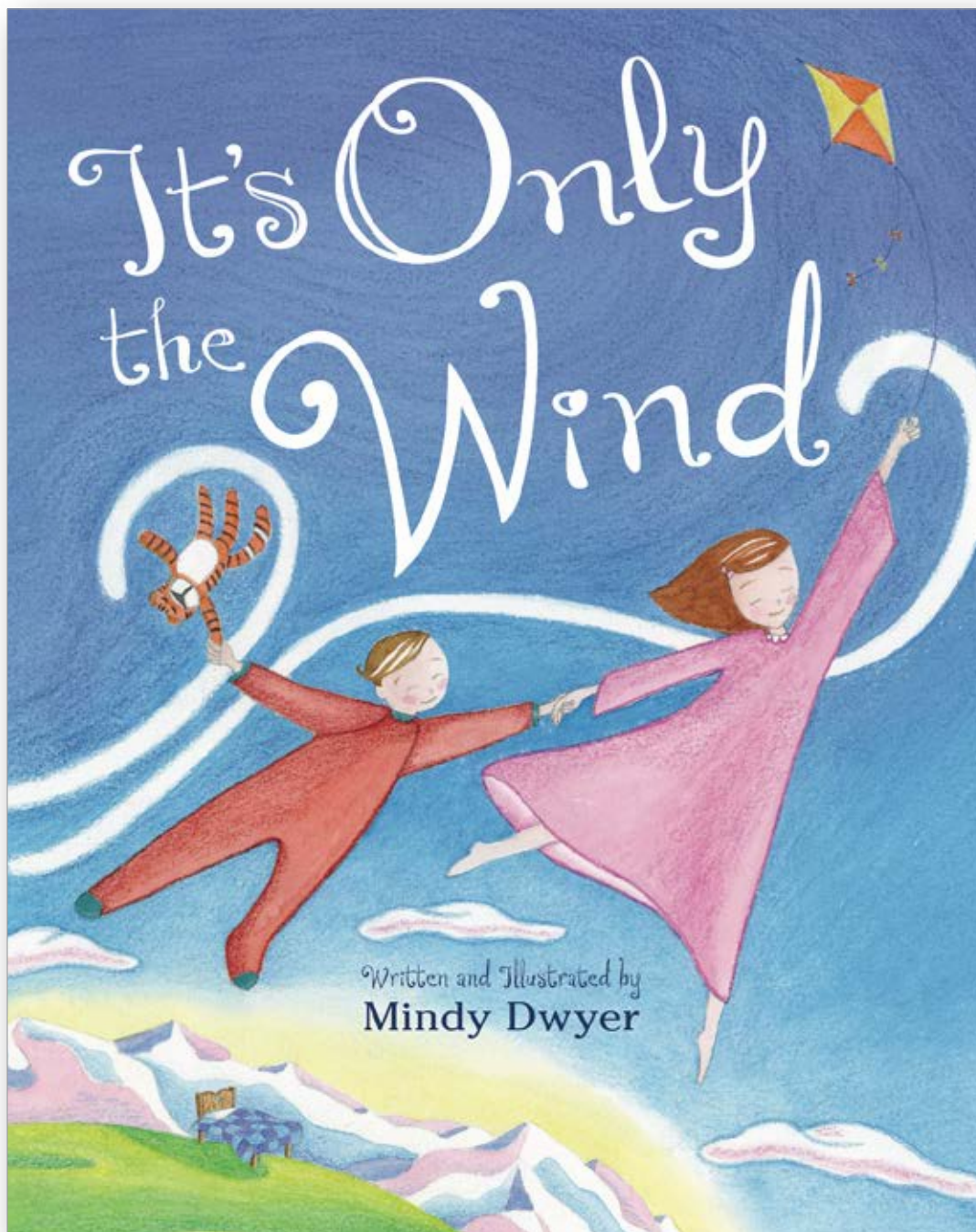


BOOK GUIDE FOR
It's Only the Wind

Written and Illustrated by Mindy Dwyer



Fry Readability: 2

Lexile Measure: AD470L

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SUMMARY

Two siblings can't fall asleep during a windstorm and call out to their mother to soothe their anxieties. Jumping between fantasy and reality, she calms the children with rhymes and near rhymes and how the wind is not something to be feared.



About the Author

Mindy Dwyer is the author of over a dozen children's books. She raised three kids on a windy mountaintop and now lives on top of a hill in the windy Pacific Northwest.

DISCUSSION

Before Reading

What is wind? What noises do you think of when you think of the wind?

Is wind visible? Name some ways the book's front and back cover illustrates the presence of wind.

Discuss how windy weather makes you feel.

After Reading

Where are the children when they hear the wind? What part of the day is it and what do you think they were about to do?

The wind goes to many places in the world. Where does the mother say it goes in the book?

Sometimes the wind can get very loud and sound like something else. What are some things the children say the loud wind sounds like?

Some of the word pairs in the story rhyme, and some do not. Which ones rhyme? Which pair is your favorite?

In reality the wind is invisible, but in the book the author drew in the wind. Where is the wind on each page?

The book talks about how the wind can be loud and make it hard to sleep. How do the children fall asleep in the end? How do they feel in the beginning of the book, and how do those feelings change?

Discuss some ways to calm down when something frightens you or keeps you awake at night.

WRITING/SCIENCE

The Chinook wind blows in the Rocky Mountains, but there are other names people give to their own local winds. Do some research and make a list of different names for the wind and where they are in the world.

The last page of the book talks about why winds are important to the land, animals, and even people. Write a summary of how the wind helps:

- Plants
- Weather
- Land
- Oceans
- Birds

It's Only the Wind Word Search

Q P I P B V B G S D D W B Y X
U I O M J K A E M N E W M W M
I E X U P Z L L I Y U U E R L
E Z D E N T B W L F K D P O U
T X E I S D K B R E E Z E C F
U W U I L O I Y A M Y S F K Y
S O H V O G X N B D P M E I A
D W I N E K T Z G A B N R N L
G N I L W O H E U U L O A G P
Y H M O U N T A I N L L V W B
C O F H C A E R N L N V U E D
Z T O T P F O T I R U L A L N
O G K Z Z X Z N Z C M C S H U
W I L D O Y G S J L H J P W O
X F N U L D O M F O D E V Y S

BEACH
BREEZE
CHINOOK WIND
GLIDE
HOWLING
LULLABY
MOUNTAIN
PLAYFUL
POUNDING
QUIET
REACH
ROCKING
ROLLING
SOUND
SWEEP
VALLEY
WHISTLE
WILD

Creative Rhyming

The rhymes in the book also come with pictures that illustrate the words. Write two pairs of rhyming words and draw pictures for them.

Create Your Own Wind Vane

Because wind is invisible, wind vanes are helpful to show which direction the wind is blowing. Find instructions to create your own wind vane here:

<https://www.education.com/activity/article/wind-vane-first/>