

Book Title: Anh's New Word

Author: Hanh Bui

Introduction

Show the book cover and ask students to predict what the story might be about.

Briefly introduce Hanh Bui and explain that this book is inspired by real experiences of Vietnamese refugees. Ask:

- What do you know about immigration or refugees?
- Have you or someone you know ever moved to a new place? How did it feel to be in a new place and try new things?

Reading and Discussion

Possible discussion questions:

- Why do you think Anh's words get stuck when she tries to speak?
- As she drifts off to sleep, how does it seem Anh is feeling about her new home?
- What helps Anh say her new word?
- What does saying something new mean for Anh?

Activity: Brave New Steps

- Have students brainstorm new things they would like to try (e.g., a new food, a new game, speaking in front of a class, learning a new skill).
- Have them consider:
 1. How do you think you would feel before, during, and after trying it?
 2. What lesson could you learn from the experience?
- Distribute a "Brave Steps" footprint cutout.
- Ask students to write or draw something new they want to try and one positive thing that might happen if they do.
- Have students share their footprints with a partner or the class.
- Display the footprints in a "Brave Steps" path on a classroom wall.