

## A Place to Talk to Someone You Miss

### An Educator's Guide: Helping Children Use a Wind Phone

Below are a few suggestions to guide you when introducing a Wind Phone to your students. Please modify it to reflect your teaching style, the needs of your learners; and in a way that feels age-appropriate and comfortable for your class.

- **Gently explain what a Wind Phone is:**  
Let them know it's not a working phone, but a place to speak from the heart. You might say, "This phone doesn't call anyone—but when you pick it up, you can talk to the person you miss. You can say anything, or nothing. It's up to you."
- **Let them lead:**  
Children may talk, sing, giggle, go quiet, or walk away. All responses are okay. The Wind Phone is not a performance—it's a personal experience.
- **Invite creative expression:**  
Encourage drawing pictures, writing notes, or telling stories before or after using the phone. These can help children reflect and release feelings in gentle ways.
- **Normalize grief:**  
Let them know it's okay to feel sad, confused, angry, or even happy when remembering someone. Emotions aren't problems to fix—they're part of healing.
- **Follow up softly:**  
Ask if they'd like to visit the phone again, or if there's anything they want to share. Be present, but don't press.

### Sample Introduction

- I. Have you ever wanted to talk to someone you love who isn't here anymore? Sometimes we miss someone so much, it feels like our heart has something to say. A Wind Phone is a special phone that lets you do just that. It doesn't make real calls, but when you pick it up, you can say whatever is in your heart. You can whisper, cry, tell a story, say "I miss you," or say nothing at all. There's no right or wrong way to use a Wind Phone. You are not alone, let the wind will carry your words to the ones you love.
- II. Sometimes we have big feelings when someone we love isn't with us anymore. It might be because they died, or maybe because we don't get to see them as much as we used to. That can feel really sad, or confusing, or even a little scary. This phone isn't connected to wires or electricity; it's a special kind of phone, just for your heart. You can come here anytime to say what you're feeling. You can talk out loud, or whisper, or even just think your thoughts. There's no right or wrong way to use it. You can say 'I miss you,' or tell a story, or just sit quietly and hold the phone. The wind will carry your words.