TOTO KERBLAMMO! FAMILY REFLECTION

UNICORN
THE UK'S THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

This is a tender story which focuses on Effy, her beloved pet Toto and her friend Noah.
It is also a play about listening.

There are complex themes in the play - loss, neglect and mental health, along with hope and the power of friendship. Theatre can be a brilliant place to explore tricky topics, and this production holds the story within a beautiful world of light and sound.

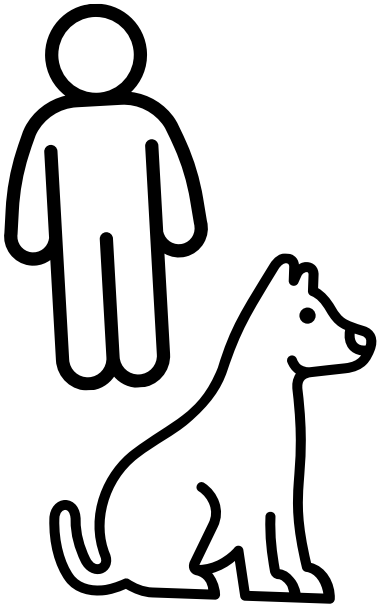
We have developed Toto Kerblammo! in consultation with children aged 9-13 and a child psychotherapist, who have also informed this reflection.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

At the end of the play whilst there's hope, there is also sadness. You might want to just talk about how you are feeling, talk about why and then go to the questions that feel relevant. The creative check-out (on the next page) is a good way to find closure - if you don't have time to draw you could just talk about the questions.

- What was your favourite moment in the play?
- Was there anything you didn't like or didn't understand?
- Choose three words to describe: Effy/Toto/Noah
- What do you think happened to Effy's mum? Why?
- What can humans offer that dogs can't? What can dogs offer that human's can't?
- If someone is feeling sad, what could they do to feel better?
- During the play we hear sounds to represent feelings. At the very end we hear birdsong, how did that make you feel?

CREATIVE CHECK-OUT



1. Draw an outline of Effy and one of Toto
2. Inside write a message to each of them - something you might say to them at the end of the play
3. Outside write the emotions you would like them to feel
4. Be creative - use colours around the emotions. Draw shapes, doodles, pictures that represent each emotion.

FUN FACT!

The audio for this play was recorded using binaural sound, it creates the effect of hearing in 3D!

It is recorded using special microphones which are often placed inside a dummy head to mimic how we naturally hear sound.

Remember the whispering in your ear? This is how that effect was created.

TIPS FOR TALKING ABOUT TRICKY TOPICS...

- Show you are listening to each other
- Include space for thought
- Ask each other questions
- If together you don't know how to answer a question, try to find out the answer together
- Allow time for feelings to be felt - validate them.

FURTHER SUPPORT

Young Minds is an excellent place for adults & children learn about mental health and well-being. They have resources which cover all of the themes in this play.

www.youngminds.org.uk