The book “Bright Star” by Yuyi Morales takes the reader on a journey of connection to family and heritage. It deepens the love and togetherness of family ancestry and their connection to the Earth. It shows the struggles and wonders of immigration through a creative narrative. The book encourages the readers to connect to their loved ones, to their family history, and to the world surrounding them by showing how every creature experiences the wonders of love and connectivity.
About The Author

Yuyi Morales, the author and illustrator of “Bright Star,” is a children’s literature writer and illustration. Her books focus on the idea of immigration brought through her lens as a Mexican-American writer.

Discussion Questions

In what ways are you able to connect to the deer’s journey of deepening its connection with the Earth and family around it?

Why do you think the author chose to include words in the Spanish language as they wrote the story?

Which illustration from the book did you feel most connected to? And why is that? (Have the students flip through the book again and look at the images)

What do you think that the deers are struggling with in the book and why do you think that is? (For example, being away from family, immigrating throughout the world)

How do you think this book shows all the different kinds of love and connection? How can every family relate to the love described in the book?

What do you think the connection between the children in the book and the deers throughout the story is? (For example, imagination leads to a creative journey)
Extension Activities

Circle of Love: Go in a circle and have each kid share out loud a word, a sound, or a dance move that represents a moment in the book for them. For example, the word “soup” makes me think of cold winter days where I snuggled with my family and ate warm soup.

Art Activity: Have the children pick out a scenario in their lives (For example, a struggle, their favorite memory, etc.) and ask them to use their imagination to create a drawing expressing how they feel.