

Arbor Day Square

by Kathryn O'Galbraith

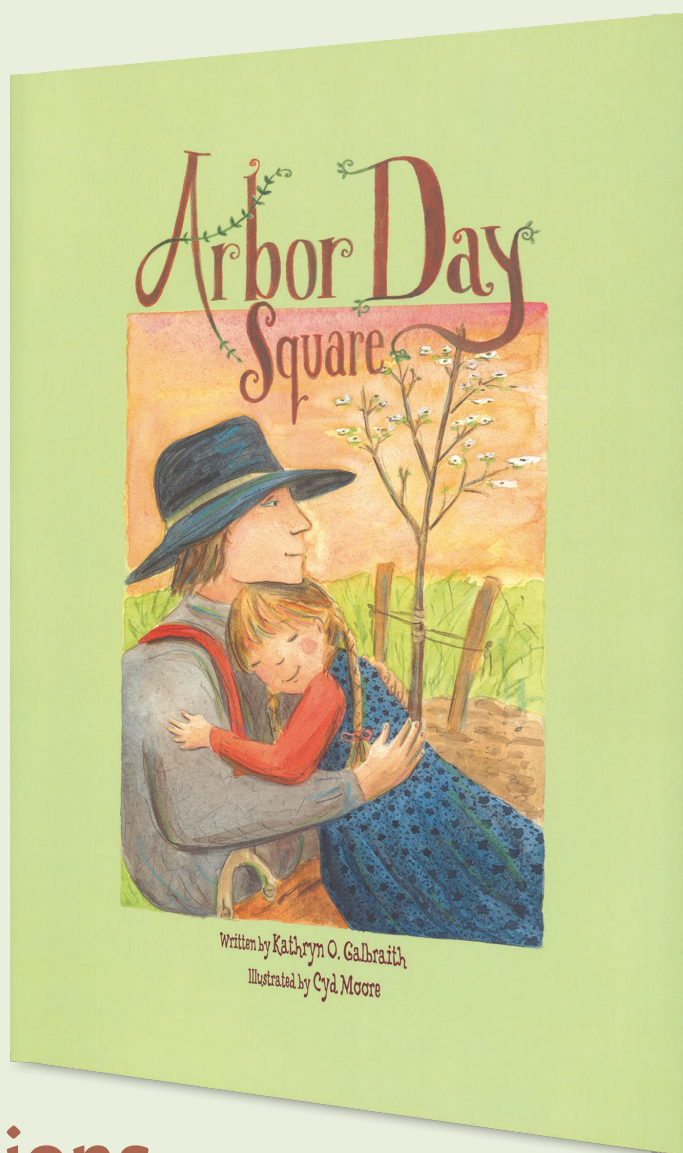
Katie and her papa are among a group of settlers building a town in the middle of the dusty, brown prairie. Every week the trains bring more people and more lumber to build houses, fences, and barns. New buildings are erected: a church with a steeple, a store with glass windows, even a schoolhouse with desks for seventeen children. But one thing is missing: trees.

Theme

Planting for the Future

Benchmark Vocabulary

Celebrating	Rakes
Chirp	Saplings
Holiday	Shade
Huge	Skips
Logs	Soil
Lumber	Special
Neighbors	Success
Parade	Town
Prairie	Unload



Close Read Questions

- What can you figure out about what prairies were like back then?
- How is the heavy basket related to Mr. Klein placing an order? Point to details in the text that helped you figure this out.
- What comes on the train? How did you figure this out?
- How is the word trees related to the word *saplings*? Let's look for details in the text that support this answer.
- What can you figure out about why the people decide to plant trees every year?
- Have students use a computer or electronic tablet to look up the National Arbor Day Foundational website and find out when Arbor Day is celebrated in your state.