

TOTO KERBLAMMO!

FAMILY REFLECTION



Written and directed by one of the UK's leading theatre-makers, Tim Crouch, 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.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

At the end of the play whilst there's hope, there is also sadness. These questions might help you to process those feelings together.

- 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?

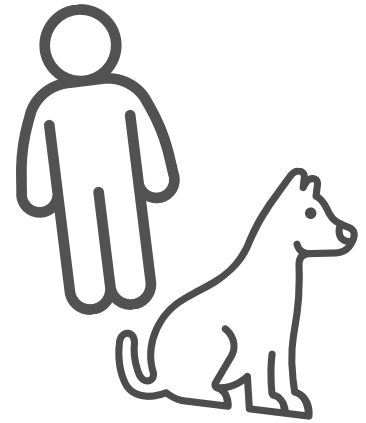
Live theatre can be profoundly moving. It can also help us to gain empathy, compassion and a greater insight to the social challenges around us. It is ok to feel complex feelings, and to acknowledge them together.

If anyone is effected by the material they have seen, take time to understand what's going on. Listening skills are key. There are some great support organisations over the page.

CREATIVE CHECK-OUT

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 and talk about why. It's ok to sit with difficult feelings. The creative check-out is a good way to find closure - if you don't have time to draw you could just talk about the questions.

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.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE SUPPORT

Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support to young people.
www.kooth.com

Winston's Wish has useful advice and support if you have experienced grief
www.winstonswish.org

Place2Be has lots of useful resources for Parents to support children's wellbeing
www.parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk



This resource has been created with Place2Be, one of the UK's leading children and young people's mental health charities.