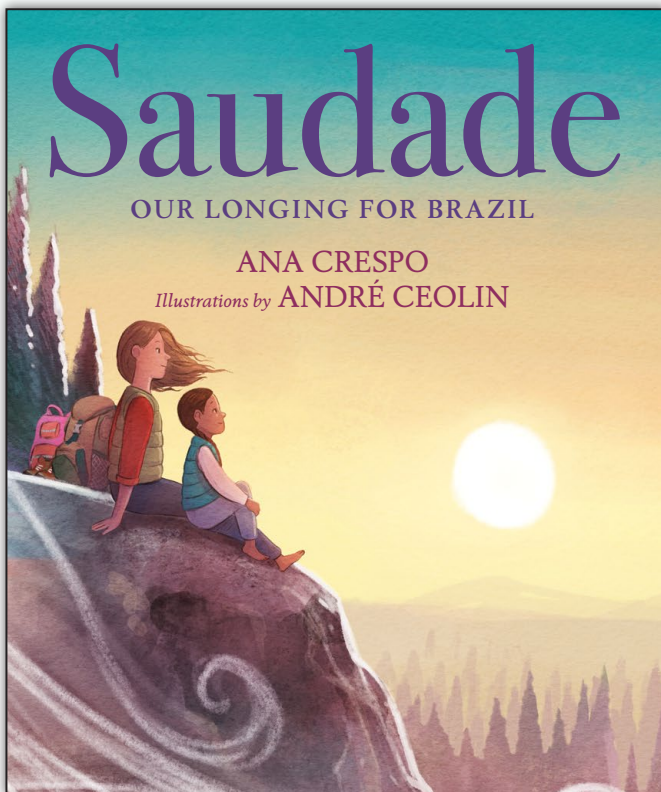


# HOLIDAY HOUSE

## EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



### *Saudade* *Our Longing for Brazil*

by **Ana Crespo**  
illustrated by **André Ceolin**

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

**If your heart has ever ached remembering a place or a person, a smell or a taste, then you've felt saudade.**

Saudade is a Portuguese and Galician word with no perfect translation to English; it's a strong,

melancholy longing for something you once had. Hiking in the hills, a little girl and her Brazilian immigrant mother contemplate what makes them feel saudade. A cool, salty breeze miles from the ocean; the smell of Grandma's perfume; memories of playing with cousins under trees or waterfalls; riding waves with grandparents who are now stuck in the square of a video call.

Though deeply woven through Brazilian music and literature, saudade is a familiar companion to us all. Readers who live far from loved ones or have adopted new homes will especially connect with this exploration of nostalgia and yearning.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Study the cover art. Consider the subtitle of the book and discuss what the girl and her mother are thinking. The girl and her mother go hiking. Discuss what they see on their hike. How are they making a memory?
- Take note of the mother's face in the second double-page spread. Why are her eyes closed? What is she thinking? At first, the girl doesn't ask her mother what saudade means. Explain why she thinks it sounds like it may be a secret.



- Follow the girl and her mother from the beginning to the end of the book. How does the mother help her daughter understand saudade? What is the difference between saudade and a “stubborn craving”? Point out the moment the girl feels saudade. Share a moment when you experienced saudade.
- Discuss how the colors change when the mother’s mind takes her back to Brazil. Note the double-page spread when the girl is remembering swimming with her cousins in Brazil. How is she feeling saudade? She asks her mother when they can visit Brazil again. How does this question make the mother know the girl understands that intense longing called saudade?
- A simile is a type of figurative language that compares two unlike things using “like” or “as.” Explain the following simile: “Saudade is like a painful blister after a long and beautiful hike.” Create a simile that reveals your understanding of saudade.

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

## ABOUT THE CREATORS



**Ana Crespo** is happiest when surrounded by nature. So Ana spends her summers traveling around the United States, visiting national parks and exploring some of the most beautiful places in America. She usually returns from her trips full of ideas for new stories. Her previous titles include *Hello, Tree*; *Lia and Luís: Who Has More?*; *The Sock Thief: A Soccer Story*; *Saudade: Our Longing for Brazil*; and the My Emotions and Me series. Originally from Brazil, Ana lives in the Rocky Mountain Region with her husband and kids. Learn more at [AnaCrespoBooks.com](http://AnaCrespoBooks.com).



**André Ceolin** has been drawing since he was four years old. After early careers in advertising and pharmaceuticals, his passion for art won out, and he became a full-time, self-taught illustrator. He has illustrated more than thirty picture books, including *With Lots of Love*, written by Jenny Torres Sanchez, *A Beginner’s Guide to Being Human*, written by Matt Forrest Esenwine, and *Saudade: Our Longing for Brazil*, written by Ana Crespo. He is based in Brazil. Visit [AndreCeolin.com](http://AndreCeolin.com) for more.

