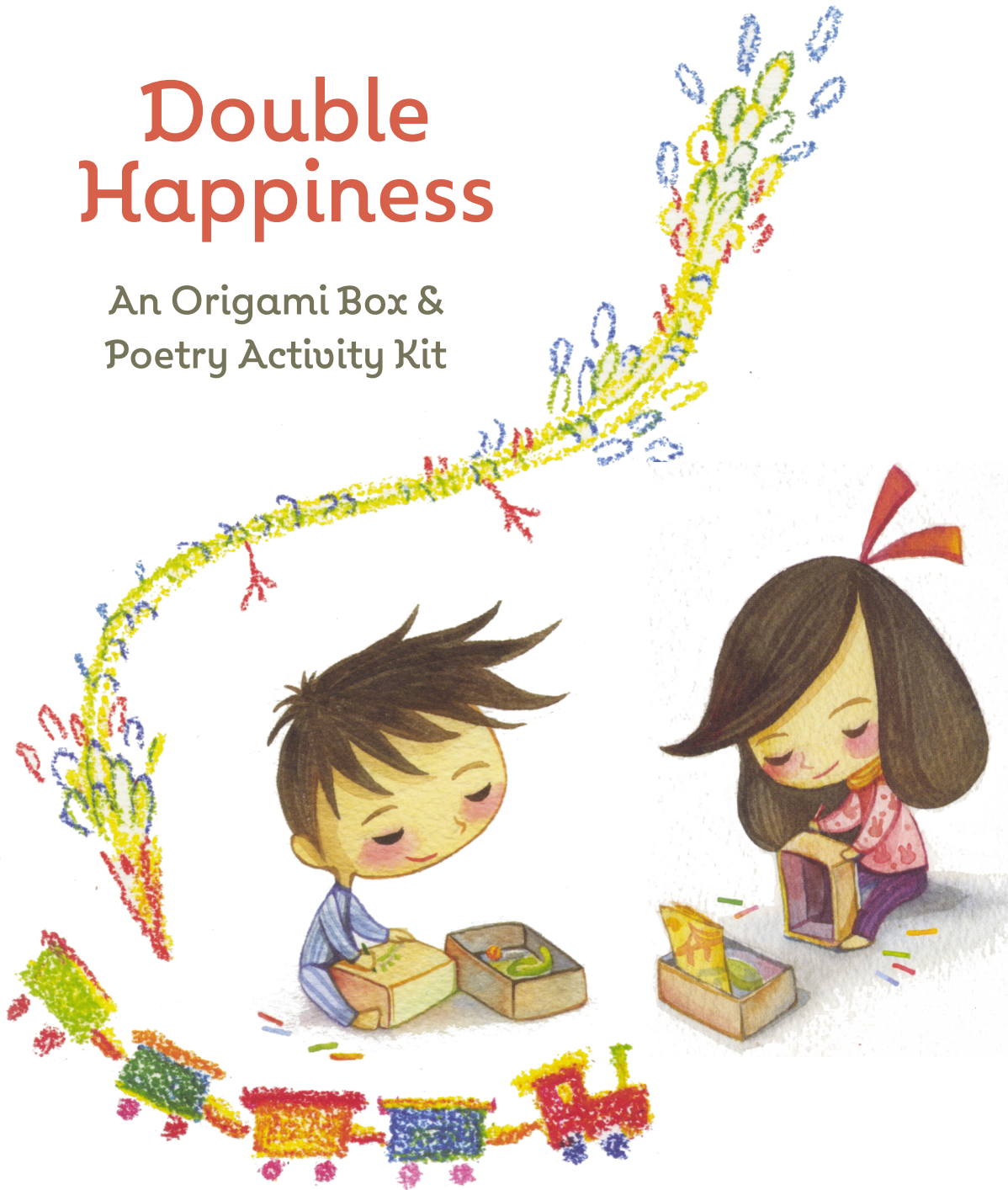


Double Happiness

An Origami Box &
Poetry Activity Kit



An activity for classrooms, libraries, bookstores and readers to be used with the picture book, *Double Happiness* by Nancy Tupper Ling and illustrated by Alina Chau (Chronicle Books).

Double Happiness: An Origami Box and Poetry Activity Kit

ABOUT THE KIT

The grandmother in the picture book **Double Happiness** gives the children each a box to collect things that make them happy and things that remind them of home. With these two activities, readers create boxes and then fill those boxes with words for a poem.

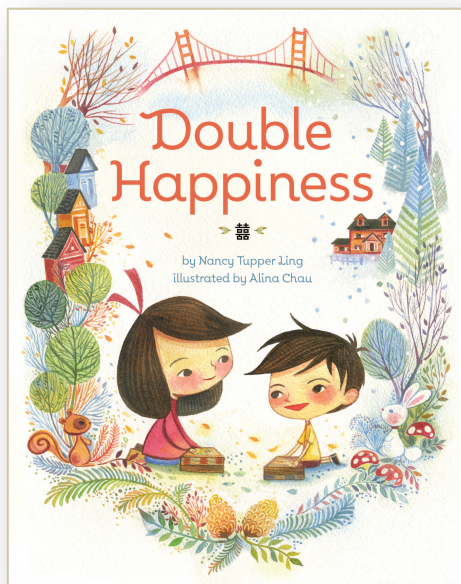
ACTIVITY: DOUBLE HAPPINESS BOX

Borrowing from the Japanese tradition of origami, readers can make their own Double Happiness Box. Pair this activity with the Poetry of Place activity to turn their Double Happiness Box into a tool for writing poetry!

ACTIVITY: POETRY OF PLACE

The characters in this prose poetry story fill small boxes with objects, memories, and emotions that remind them of their new home and their old home. Poems are also a collection of objects, memories, and emotions expressed in words. Using this activity, readers can follow prompts to collect words for a poem about place.

AN EVENT POSTER is also included in this kit!



ABOUT THE BOOK

Double Happiness

by Nancy Tupper Ling

Illustrated by Alina Chau

Published by Chronicle Books LLC

ISBN-13: 9781452129181

Age Range: 5 - 8 Years

"In this gentle tale told in verse, Gracie and her brother, Jake, journey to their new home, all the while searching for special things to keep in their happiness boxes. Gracie doesn't want to leave Uncle Woo, Auntie Su, and her beloved San Francisco home to move across the country.

Double Happiness: An Origami Box and Poetry Activity Kit

ABOUT THE BOOK (cont.)

“To ease their pain, Nai Nai gives Gracie and Jake happiness boxes in which to gather memories. She tells them: “Find four treasures each, / leading from this home / to your new.” After goodbyes are exchanged and they set off, Gracie selects a stray eucalyptus leaf, a reminder of home, while Jake snatches a penny from the floor of the airport bus.

The simple text gives off energy that is both reflective, as Gracie wonders about her new house, and joyful, as Jake finds a marble, filling his box first. Treasure choices reveal both siblings' personalities and dreams that finally allow Gracie to feel at home. Double Happiness, traditionally a wish for newlyweds in Chinese culture, expands to key moments here: for sister and brother, for two memory boxes, and step by step, for a former home to a new one. Rendered in delicate watercolors and brush strokes, Chau's illustrations and calligraphy evoke calm in the midst of Gracie's anxieties and ethereal playfulness with Jake's ever present mystical dragon. A thoughtful and moving story of memory and change.” —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nancy Tupper Ling is a poet and author who draws her inspiration from the multicultural background of her family. She is the founder of Fine Line Poets and the winner of the prestigious *Writer's Digest Grand Prize* and the *Pat Parnell Poetry Award*. She lives in Walpole, Massachusetts, with her husband and their two girls.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Alina Chau received her MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles. She spent over a decade working in the animation industry, and her illustrations have been featured in art exhibitions worldwide. She currently resides in San Francisco, California.

PREPARING FOR THE ACTIVITIES

You will, of course, create your own grand program or lesson plan! Following are simply suggested ways to prepare for an event or classroom experience.

___ Locate a copy of the picture book **Double Happiness** by Nancy Tupper Ling and illustrated by Alina Chau (Chronicle Books).

___ If you list your events in newsletters and online calendars, here is some text that may help with those listings:

In the picture book, **Double Happiness** by Nancy Tupper Ling and illustrated by Alina Chau (Chronicle Books), a brother and sister collect objects and memories in small boxes. The contents of those boxes will help them remember the close-knit Chinese American family they are moving away from and will help them celebrate their new home. Together we will be making origami Double Happiness Boxes and collecting words for poems about place. Best for ages 5-8, but all welcome.

Double Happiness: An Origami Box and Poetry Activity Kit

___ If you are doing an event for the public, copy and display the poster in this kit, hand it out in your community, and include it in a display.

___ Make one copy of page one of the Double Happiness Box sheets for each reader. Make two copies of page two for each reader. (This will allow them to make two boxes that nest together.)

___ Make one copy of both pages in the Double Happiness: Poetry of Place sheets for each reader. Even if you do not have time to complete this second activity, it is a great takeaway for students or families.

___ Gather supplies for the activities including:

- ___ Colored pencils, markers and/or crayons
- ___ Scissors
- ___ Scotch tape
- ___ Pencils with erasers

___ Make samples of the two activities to share with readers.

Thanks for creating double happiness for readers!

DOUBLE HAPPINESS & CHINESE AMERICAN CULTURE

Double Happiness contains subtle, but rich details of Chinese American culture.

To explore ongoing features on Chinese and Chinese American culture (related to this and forthcoming books by Nancy Tupper Ling) to incorporate into your teaching or events, visit:

www.nancytupperling.com/category/chinese-culture



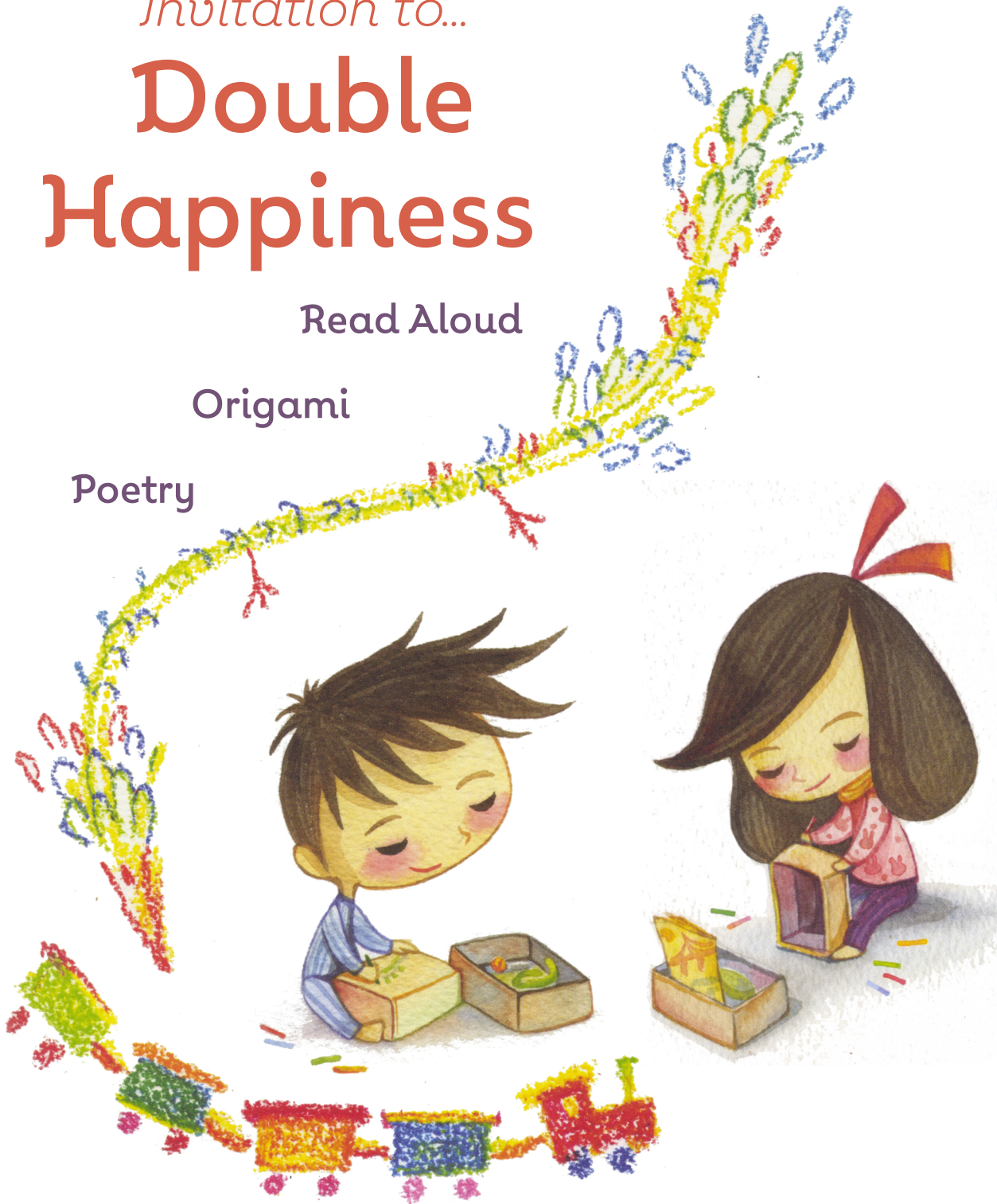
Invitation to...

Double Happiness

Read Aloud

Origami

Poetry



When:

Where:

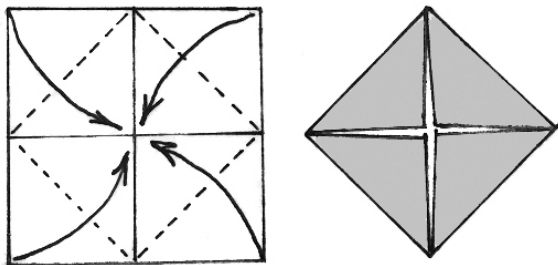
In celebration of the Chinese American picture book, *Double Happiness* by Nancy Tupper Ling and illustrated by Alina Chau (Chronicle Books).

Double Happiness Box

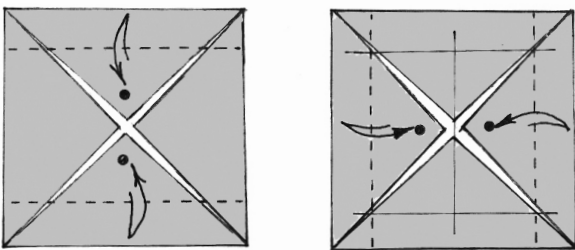
The grandmother in the picture book *Double Happiness* gives the children each a box to collect things that make them happy and things that remind them of home. Borrowing from the Japanese tradition of origami, you can make your own Double Happiness Box. *Pair this activity with the Double Happiness: Poetry of Place activity to turn your Double Happiness Box into a tool for writing poetry!*

Instructions

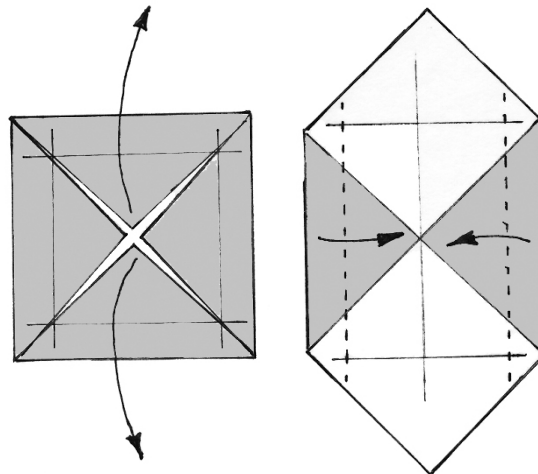
- 1) Add your own color and designs to the front of the Double Happiness Box Template.
- 2) Cut the template out along the dotted line.
- 3) Start with this colored side up on your table.
- 4) Fold the paper in half vertically and open.
- 5) Fold the paper in half horizontally and open.
- 6) Turn the paper over so that the white side is facing up.
- 7) Fold all four corners into the center.



- 8) Fold the outer edge to the center, crease and open. Repeat on all four sides.



- 9) Fully open two opposite sides.
- 10) Bring the two folded sides together.



- 11) Point one of the triangle ends towards your body.

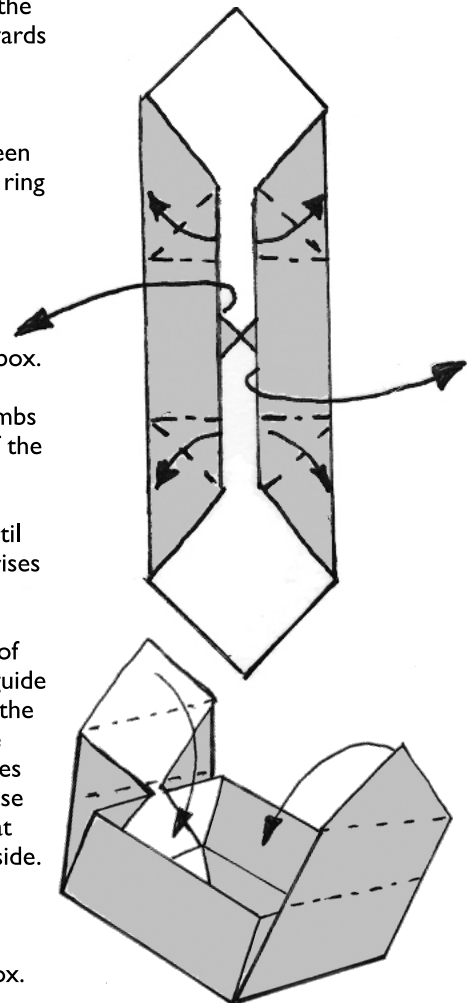
- 12) Grasp each folded side between your pointer and ring finger.

- 13) Stand the folded sides up. You are holding two sides of the box.

- 14) Put your thumbs on the outside of the box and push the crease closest to each thumb in until the triangle end rises up.

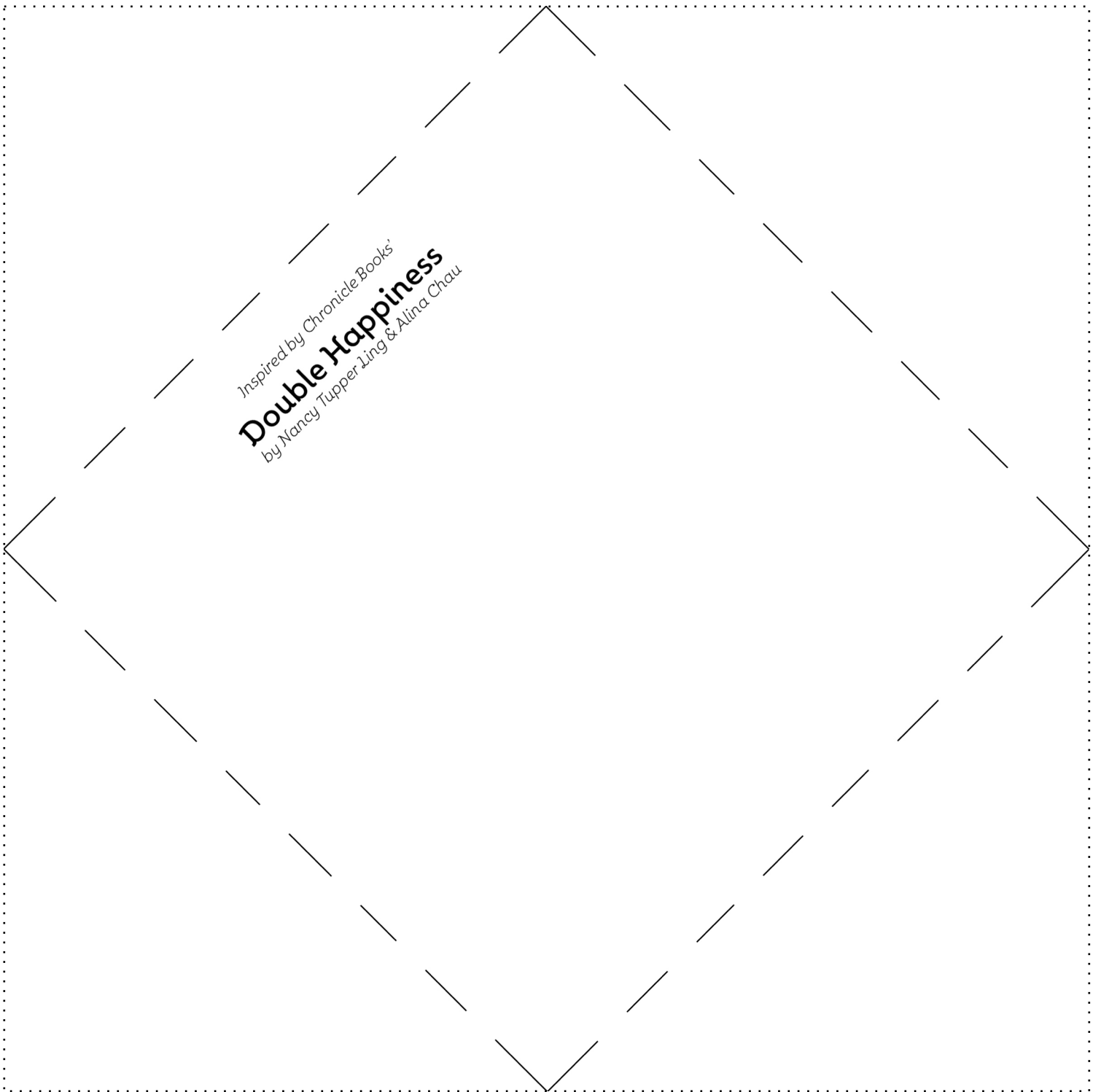
- 15) Grab the tip of the triangle and guide it to the floor of the box to match the other two triangles already on the base of the box. Repeat on the opposite side.

- 16) Repeat steps 1-15 to make a cover for your box.



Double Happiness Box

Double Happiness Box Template



This activity is designed to be used with the picture book, **Double Happiness** by Nancy Tupper Ling and illustrated by Alina Chau (Chronicle Books).
For this and other children's book activities, visit CuriousCityDPW.com

Double Happiness: Poetry of Place

In the picture book *Double Happiness*, the characters fill small boxes with objects, memories, and emotions that remind them of their new home and their old home. Poems are also a collection of objects, memories, and emotions expressed in words. Would you like to collect words to create a poem about your favorite place? What place brings you double happiness? A grandparent's house? A spot under a tree? A neighborhood park? The local library?

Write words or phrases in the boxes below. Cut out what you have written. If you have created a Double Happiness Box, place the cut-out words in your box, shake, and spill the words out on your desk or table. Move the words around to start to shape a poem. Use the next page to draft a poem with these and additional words.

What is the best smell in your favorite place?		What person makes your place special?	
What food reminds you of your favorite place?		What object would you miss the most if it disappeared from your place?	
If you closed your eyes in your favorite place, what would you hear?		What's your favorite thing to do there? What's your second favorite thing?	
What book, game, or toy would you like to bring to your special place?		What animal (real or imaginary) would you like to bring along?	
What color do you see when you close your eyes and imagine your favorite place?		What could double your happiness about your favorite place?	

Double Happiness

My Poem of Place

NOTE: *Double Happiness* picture book author Nancy Tupper Ling is also a poet and would love to read your poem! With a parent or teacher's permission, you can share your poem with her at ntupper@finelinepoets.com. Ms. Ling will publish your poem (with your first name and age) on her blog if your parent or teacher notes their approval in the email. **May writing bring you double happiness!**