

The
Early Years Count
Literacy
Connection



Grandpa & Jake

Written and illustrated by
Julie Fortenberry

Preschool edition

Overview of Book

Grandpa has a plan to take Jake somewhere special. Jake would rather stay home and watch TV. Grandpa said where they will go has boats, dinosaurs, baseball and peaches- all of Jake's favorite things!

Genre: Picture

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Grandpa and Jake* to introduce in your classroom:

prediction	return
borrow	special

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches to Learning
Item A (*Initiative and planning*)

Language, Literacy and Communication Item M
(*Listening and comprehension*)
Item Q
(*Book enjoyment and knowledge*)

Reading Tips

Take notice of the graphic elements and the text prompts to fully convey the message in this story. Show and let the children know, "There are times the book says to whisper." and, "When the words on the page are big or in bold, that means I have to read it loud." Ask the children several times to make *predictions* about where Grandpa is taking Jake. At the end, ask questions like, "Who's been to the library?", "What did you do there?" or, "We have books here in the Book Area. Do you have books at home?" Provide time for children to share their book experiences.

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

For **Recall Time**, pretend to be Jake. Have a selection of materials from around the room. Encourage children to close their eyes and feel around for the material that best describes their Work Time experience.

After the first read aloud, start a "Places you can read" list based on the pictures in the book. This can be part of **Greeting Time**. As you read the book several times, ask the children to point out where they see characters reading and add to the list.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Add thoughtfully selected books to expand the **Book Area** to encourage "library pretend play". Create a checkout counter for "borrowing", and stamp "due-dates" on index cards.

Add extra blocks and animals to the **Block Area**. Use the book to look at where Jake and Grandpa walk through as a reference to create a cityscape.

Take photos of children using books in the classroom. Post for all to see.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Grandpa and Jake*:

Where is your favorite place to be?

In the story, Jake chooses books to read about his favorite things. What do you want to read about in a book?

Do you have a favorite book or story? Can you tell me about it?

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Grandpa and Jake* with their child. Here's a sample message you can send:

As you and your child read this together, ask your child to predict where Grandpa and Jake are going. Look carefully at the busy pictures. Play "I Spy" as you look for characters reading books or for the many different animals pictured. Share with your child fun memories you may have about going to the library- even the school library where you went. Let them know about the librarian, that they are the grown-up who helps people find whatever book they are looking for. If possible, go to a library to explore the children's section. This may be the time to get your child's first library card!