

GRANDPARENTS' DAY AT SCHOOL

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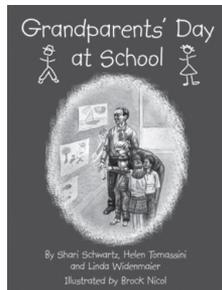
Illustrated by - Brock Nicol

Genre – Recount, Procedural

Set 18 - 413 Words

Building Anticipation - Setting the Context

Brainstorm for a list of special events and special days that are held at your school i.e., concerts, festivals, open houses, sports days, literacy nights. Ask who comes to these events? What happens at each of these events?



Introduction

Make a list of terms that students call their grandparents i.e., Nana, Papa, Grandpa, Grandma, Grammy, Grampy. Introduce words from other languages such as Grandmère, Grandpère. Be sure to include Naniji, Nanaji, Oma, and Opa. Tell the students that they are going to read a book entitled *Grandparents' Day At School*. Ask what the students would show their grandparents if their grandparents could come to school. Tell them to read to find out how Sayeed and Amber spent Grandparents' Day at their school.

Discussion – Book Talk

Right there questions:

- List the steps for making an invitation.
- What information did the children include on their invitation?
- When did the students make their invitations?
- Where did the children first meet their grandparents?
- What did Sayeed want his grandparents to see?

Think and search questions:

- What was the first thing Sayeed did with his grandparents?
- Act out the way Sayeed greeted his grandparents.
- Why do you think Sayeed and his grandparents had their picture taken?
- Why was Amber sad?
- How did Sayeed's grandparents help Amber?
- What did students and grandparents do at the end of their day?

On your own questions:

- Sayeed's grandparents gave Mrs. Chan a book. What do you think the book was about?
- What are some reasons some grandparents might not be able to attend?
- If grandparents can't come, who else could come in their places? What are some words to describe how Sayeed felt when he saw his grandparents? Use a thesaurus to find the words.
- What are some words to describe how Amber felt when she saw other grandparents arriving and knew her grandparents could not come? Use a thesaurus to find words.
- How did you feel when Amber's grandparents finally arrived?
- What questions do you think the grandparents asked the children about the school?

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Plan a Grandparents' Day

With the students, plan a Grandparents' Day for your school. Include students in drawing up the agenda for the day. Review the steps for making the invitation and have students make their own invitations. Model the procedure for students and then refer them to the steps found on page 3 in the book.

Use the Thesaurus.

Review the definition of a synonym. Give some common examples, i.e., *good - nice, angry - mad*. Pass out copies of the reproducible and ask students to read the first word in column number 1. Ask them to think of a synonym for the word. Write it in the second column. Then using the thesaurus, look up the word and write another synonym in the third column.

Grandparent Interview

Discuss interviewing skills. Tell the students that they are going to interview one or both grandparents about life at school when they were your age. Draw up a list of questions to use when they interview a grandparent(s). Allow students to design some questions of their own. Share these with their classmates.

Read Aloud and Poetry Connections

At Grandmother's House, J. Lim, Tundra Books, 1977.

Grandma and the Pirates by Outlet, Random House, 1989.

Grandmom poem by Sheree Fitch from *Toes in my Nose and Other Poems*, Doubleday Canada, 1987.

Just Grandma and Me by Mercer Mayer, Golden Books, 2001.

Oma's Quilt by Paulette Bourgeois, Kids Can Press, 2001.

Related Websites

<http://www.grandmaconnection.com/grandparentsdaykit/part2/gpday2.3.html>

<http://www.grandparents-day.com/interview.htm>

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words - visit, visitors, time, half, walk, walked
Interest Words - grandparents, Oma, Opa, Sayeed, Naniji, Nanaji, Amber, Mrs. Chan

Word Families and Letter Clusters - Silent *l*: half, walk
Structural Features of Words - Compound Words: grandparents, Woodside, backpack, classroom - Contractions: can't, don't
Text Features - Text box around the invitation instructions - Dates in bold font

Reproducible Master - Grandparents' Day at School

Read each word in column number 1.

For each word think of a word that means the same and write those in column number 2.

Then use the thesaurus and find another synonym for each word. Write those in column number 3.

Word	Your Synonym	Synonym from the Thesaurus
excited		
arrive		
meet		
happy		
sad		
shouted		
special		