

## **Things My Pa Told Me**

By Anthony Bertini & Jonathan Bentley

Publisher: Little Hare Books

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**PICTURE BOOK OF  
THE MONTH**

A meditation on fatherhood, and a timeless story that will resonate with fathers across the generations.

As a day unfolds in a quiet Italian village, a father encapsulates his hopes and dreams for his young child. Wise, moving and inspirational, *Things My Pa Told Me* is the perfect story for fathers to share with their children.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

### **Themes:**

- Families
- Relationships and the ways they change over the years
- Growing up
- Becoming independent

### **Discussion Questions & Activities:**

- **Where In The World?** – Ask students to guess where this book is set. Why do they think the book is set in that particular place? What clues can be found in the illustrations to learn the location of this text?
- Ask students to name the child portrayed in the book. Why do they think the author has not named the child? What things do students notice and learn about the child? What do they imagine about the child? Have students write a character profile for the child in the story. How do they think the child has benefited from the advice in the narrative?
- Ask students if they have ever visited a farm or lived on a farm. How was their farm experience the same as the child's experience in the book? How was it different?
- A cat appears in the book only once. Ask students if they can recall which illustration the cat appears in, and what its role is in the narrative.
- There is only a single illustration in which the dog does not appear. Ask students if they can recall which illustration the dog is missing from, and why they think the dog is not pictured there.
- Ask students to make a list naming as many of the fruits and vegetables in the book as they can.
- Ask students to make up their own narrative for the illustrations. How would they tell the story differently based on the illustrations?