

Lamont Books Standing Order

April 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

Jam For Nana

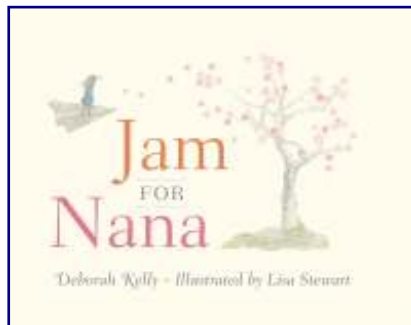
By Deborah Kelly & Illustrated by Lisa Stewart

Publisher: Random House

ISBN 9780857980014

\$19.99

A very special picture book about the bond between little girls and their grandmothers. When Nana makes pancakes, I spread the jam. I smooth it right to the edges with the back of my spoon, until it looks like a giant orange sun. Then we roll them up tightly, dust them with sugar and lick our fingers. In this beautifully written picture book a little girl goes to the ends of the earth to find real apricot jam for her beloved grandmother.



Themes:

- Grandparents
- Special relationships
- Doing things for others

Discussion Points:

- Grandparents can be very special people in our lives. How would you describe the relationship that the girl in the story has with her Nana?
- Do you have someone special like her Nana in your life? It might not be a grandparent—it could be an aunty or uncle, cousin or neighbour.
- If so, who is it? What makes them so special to you? What are some of the things that you do together?
- Why do you think Nana described the jam as not 'real' jam?
- The girl wanted her Nana to have 'real' jam. Why do you think she wanted to get 'real' jam for her Nana?
- How would you describe the effort that the girl went to in order to get 'real' jam for her Nana?
- Why do you think she was so determined to find it for her?
- 'Maybe I can find another way to make her feel the warmth of a hundred summers.' What did the girl do to make her Nana feel like this again?
- Do you do things to make special people in your life happy? Describe something important that you have done for someone.
- Why do we like to please people we love?
- Food can mean a lot to many people and make us feel a certain way, or make us remember an important event in our life, like real jam made Nana feel. Do you have a special food that makes you feel 'the warmth of a hundred summers'? If so, what is it?

Activities:

- Have your students think of something to make for a special person in their life to show them how much they love them. It could be a card, a letter or something of their own creation.
- As a class, organise a day to make your own pancakes and 'real' jam! You may be able to co-ordinate to have a grandparent, parent or special friend to be there to help make them and, of course, share in eating them!