

Lamont Books Standing Order

May 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

I Wish My Mum Was An Octopus

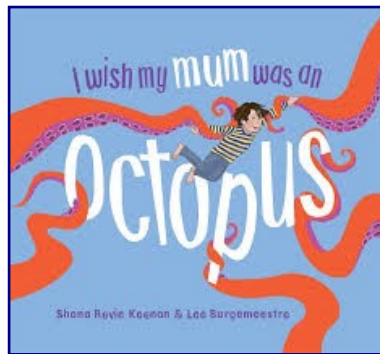
By Shona Revie Keenan & Illustrated by Lee Burgemeestre

Publisher: Ford Street

ISBN 9781925000375

\$22.95

Shona Keenan's son Lachlan at age four said exactly how she felt - there was not enough of her to go around. What amazed her was that he gave the tentacles to the phone, kitchen, laundry, work, siblings etc, first. And tentacle eight just wanted he and her to be together. This Book explains why we may not be with our children as much as we may wish, but also provides some humour into the extremely busy life of a mother. From one child to another. From one mother to another.



Themes:

- Mums
- Family relationships
- Making time to be together
- Busy lives

Discussion Points:

- Do you wish your Mum was an octopus? If so, why?
- What would you have each of her tentacles doing? Are they similar to what the little boy wished for?
- Does your Mum live a busy life? Think about everything that she does in a day. Do you think she wishes she was an octopus too? Explain.
- Do you think that Mums sometimes have too much to do?
- How can we all slow down a bit and just enjoy being together as families? Think of one practical thing that your family could do to allow you to all spend more time together.
- If your Mum had a spare hour in her day, what do you think she would do with it?
- Do you think the things that a Mum does has changed from generations past? Can you think of some examples?
- This story is told from two perspectives - the little boy and his Mum. Read this story with your Mum and see how she reacts!

Activities:

- Write a letter to your Mum telling her why you love her so much and why you love spending time with her.
- There's something hiding on every octopus page. Can you find them all?