

Lamont Books Standing Order

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Teacher Notes and Activities

The Messy Mother's Day

By Lucie Billingsley

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Sophie, Dad and Jake have very special plans for Mum this Mother's Day. First off, there is breakfast in bed. Then they sneak away to make their gifts; a painting, a picture frame and some yummy cakes. But Baxter the dog wants to join in the fun and what follows is the messiest Mother's Day the family has ever known. An exuberant, contemporary story about one of the best days of the year.



Themes:

- Mother's Day
- Family time

Discussion Points:

- What is your favourite thing you do with your Mum? Why?
- What are the names of the children in this story? Why do you think we are not told the name of the baby?
- What do the expressions on the faces of the family and the dog tell us about what really happened?
- Even though her Mother's Day was spent cleaning up the mess, why didn't she mind? Why was it still a special day?
- Do you have any funny stories to share about things that have gone wrong in your house, even though you were trying to do something nice?
- What is the best thing that your family has done together? Explain what made it special.
- Discuss why just spending time together as a family is important. What do we get from this time together?

Activities:

- Plan a special Mother's Day for your Mum this year.
 - Design a 'breakfast in bed' menu on the computer and print it out.
 - Make a special gift that you think your Mum will love.
 - With the help of other family members plan a special lunch or dinner with your extended family to celebrate this special day.
- Think about what your 'perfect' family day would be. Write an agenda for a day, including where you would go and what you would do. Show your family. The next time you spend the day together, see if you can implement your plan.