

# Lamont Books Standing Order

February 2013

*Teacher Notes and Activities*

## **Granny Grommet & Me**

By Dianne Wolfer & Karen Blair  
ISBN 9781921720161  
\$27.95

A story that many young reluctant swimmers will identify with.

My granny and her friends go to the beach, and I go too. When they hit the surf, they duck and dive and twist and turn. It looks like lots of fun. But I don't want to go in the water. There are strange things under the waves...



### Themes:

- Surfing
- Ocean life
- Overcoming fear
- Being adventurous

### Discussion Points:

- Do you know what a 'Grommet' is?
- Have you ever been to the beach? What is your favourite activity to do at the beach?
- The child in the story was apprehensive about going in the water because 'there are strange things under the waves'. Why is the ocean a daunting place at times?
- How did the child overcome their initial fear? What happened once they realised that they were safe?
- You might not be afraid of the ocean, but think of another thing that you might be scared of. What is one thing you could do to help yourself overcome your fear?
- Are the Granny Grommets your typical type of Grandmother? Do they act like a 'traditional' older person? What does this tell us about keeping active and being adventurous, even as we get older?
- What are some other activities that we don't normally associate with older people?
- As a class, come up with a list of words that you associate with the beach/ocean.

### Activities:

- Organise a visit to the beach and go exploring! See how many different sea creatures, plants and shells you can find. Collect as many of them as you can, then create a diorama of all the things you have collected. You may also like to add in other things associated with the beach. (If you aren't near a beach, you might like to do this activity about another natural attraction near your school).
- Design your own surfboard. Be creative and have it reflect something about you.