

May 2015

Picture Story

Teacher Notes and Activities

Do You Remember?

By Kelly O'Gara and Anna McNeil Publisher: Wombat Books ISBN 9781925139242 \$24.99

A beautiful exploration between a child and their ageing grandparent presented with outstanding illustrations, by newcomer illustrator, Kelly O'Gara.

Children will relate to the mice as they read the story and understand their grandparent's condition. The book can cater for multiple ageing conditions but specifically is focussed on explaining Dementia to children.



Teacher notes have been amended from those supplied by the publisher, Wombat Books.

Themes:

- Relationships
- Memories
- Family

Discussion Points

- Does anyone have memories of times they have spent with their grandparent? What happened in your memory?
- Do you struggle to remember things sometimes? Do you think this is different from someone who forgets things because they have dementia?
- Can anyone explain what dementia is?
- After reading the story, can anyone tell me some things that can happen to someone who has dementia?
- Does anyone know someone who has dementia?
- Do you think dementia is contagious?
- How did the little mouse feel when he started noticing changes in his grandma? Have you ever felt like that before?
- Why did the little mouse start painting pictures? What were the pictures of?
- Why was the grandma mouse moved to a new home eventually? What type of home was it?
- Does anyone have a relative who is in a nursing home? Do you know how they feel about it?
- What did the little mouse realise when he finally built up the courage to visit his grandma at the nursing home? Did the grandma enjoy his visit?
- What did the little mouse do with the grandma when he visited her?
- After reading the tips at the end of the story, what are some things you could do with your grandparent?
- What are some things you learned from reading this book?

Activity:

Create a scrapbook of family memories:

- Encourage children to bring in family photos and help them arrange the images in a blank book. Use coloured papers, paints, stickers and stamps to decorate the pages and write small blurbs about who is in the photographs, where they are and what they are doing.
- Children can take this scrapbook when visiting their grandparent and look through it with them. Encourage
 the children to talk to them about the memories in the photographs, even if their grandparent may not
 remember some of the details.