

Lamont Books Standing Order

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Teacher Notes and Activities

My Mum Says The Strangest Things

By Katrina Germain & Illustrated by Tom Jellett

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When Mum's busy she says she's run off her feet. When I dawdle, Mum tells me to shake a leg. When I say, "I'm coming," Mum says, "So is Christmas." My mum says the STRANGEST things.



Themes:

- Mums
- Sayings
- Different meanings

Discussion Points:

- This book is full of many sayings. As a class, write them all down in a list so that everyone can see them.
- How many of these sayings have you heard? Are there any that your Mum says? Have you ever asked your Mum why she says them?
- Look closely at the illustrations. What does the boy think his Mum's sayings mean? Do you think that the boy is right? Or is their real meaning something different? Can you figure out the real meaning of some of the sayings?
- Do we often say things out of habit, without really knowing what it means or why we say it? Can you think of an example?
- Why do you think we often use 'sayings'? Do people always know what they mean?
- Do you have a 'saying' that you always like to use? What does it mean? Do you think your Mum understands what your saying means?
- Do you think that sayings have changed over generations? If so, why? Think of some examples of sayings that you and your friends say that your parents might not use.
- Families often have special or funny things that they say to each other, that others outside the family may not understand. Write down one thing that gets said in your house that you think is unique to your family. You may or may not like to share this with the class.
- As a class, brainstorm some modern day sayings. Create a mural of sayings and accompanying pictures that represent them.

Activities:

- Mums love to get flowers! But rather than give her a real bunch, design and create your own 'paper bunch' of flowers. You can use a variety of objects and there are many ideas on the internet showing you ways to make different sorts of flowers. Give them to you Mum, Nana or someone else special in your life to show how much you love them.
- Choose your favourite saying from the book. Draw your own interpretation of it. Display them all in the classroom.