

## Just Grandma and Me by Mercer Mayer



**STORY DESCRIPTION:** Little Critter and his grandmother decide to spend a day at the beach! Little Critter is a good helper, even at the beach. When his grandmother's hot dog falls in the sand, he washes it off in the ocean. He promises to blow up the inflatable sea horse but needs a little help in the end. The joys and mishaps of a special summer day with Grandma are all brightened by Little Critter's sunny disposition!

**SUBJECT:** Social-Emotional Learning

**GRADE LEVELS:** Preschool, Pre-K, K

### **USING omBooks IN THE CLASSROOM**

#### **Reading Modes**

##### *Read it Myself*

- Read the story to your students or have the students read the story themselves
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

##### *Read to Me*

- Follow along as the story is read by the narrator
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

##### *Auto Play*

- Follow along as the story is read by a narrator
- Pages turn automatically for reading at a controlled pace

#### **Interactive Features**

- Tap a picture to hear and see the word associated with it
- Tap on an individual word to hear it pronounced
- Touch and hold a paragraph to hear it read by a narrator
- Find the creatures throughout the story! Tap on them to count them.

## **Reading Dynamics**

### *Large Group*

- Connect your iOS or Android device to your classroom projector, TV, or computer monitor (see *How-To Guide*).
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the entire class.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a whole-class discussion.
- Alternatively, if your students can read, project the questions on the screen. Invite students to partner up and discuss the story in pairs. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.

### *Small Groups*

- Gather a small group of students and display the iOS or Android device so all can see.
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the small group.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a group discussion.

### *Partners*

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story in pairs.
- Students can take turns reading pages, asking questions, and supporting each other.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

### *Independent*

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story independently.
- Students can use the interactive features to support their reading, and each student can explore the text and illustrations at an individualized pace.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3 and ask them to type or record their responses on the device.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

## DISCUSSING THE STORY

1. Mercer Mayer is the author and illustrator of this book -- he writes the story and draws the pictures. He uses the pictures to help tell the story. How do the illustrations in this book help tell the story? Do the illustrations add humor to the story? What parts of the story are funny to you?
2. Where do Grandma and Little Critter go in this story? What do they do there?
3. Have you ever been to the beach? What do you like to do at the beach? If you've never been to a beach, would you like to go one day? What would you like to do there?
4. How do you think Little Critter feels when he is with his Grandma? Do you ever spend time with your grandmother? How do you feel when you are with your grandmother? What do you like most about your grandmother?

## EXTENDING THE LEARNING

Support students in using the iOS or Android device as a tool to extend their learning. Some ideas:

- **Plan a trip to the beach!** This can be a real field trip to a local beach or an imaginary trip to the beach (you could turn your classroom into a "beach" for a dramatic play experience). Use your mobile device to plan for the trip. Look up beaches on a map application, schedule your trip in a digital calendar, research the weather and water temperature online to make sure you all dress appropriately. Take pictures or video when you are at the beach (real or imaginary beach) and organize them in an online album or post them to a class blog!
- **Tell a transmedia story:** Talk about grandparents. Ask your students to pick one grandparent to focus on. Support your students in creating a transmedia story about a special time they shared with their grandparent. If a child doesn't have any grandparents he or she can focus on a parent or another family member. Use some or all of the following media:
  - Produce a movie
  - Record a story and save it as an audio file to play back or share
  - Perform a digital puppet show using a puppet app
  - Draw or paint scenes to create a slideshow, incorporate audio and links to maps or other reference sites

## SHARING YOUR WORK

Have you used the [Just Grandma and Me](#) omBook in your class? We'd love to hear about it! To share your experience, please visit the Education Center on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/OceanhouseMedia](http://www.facebook.com/OceanhouseMedia) .

## DOWNLOADING THE APPS

omBooks (Oceanhouse Media Digital Books) are available for purchase in the following stores:

