Grandpa’s Face
Written by Eloise Greenfield, Illustrations by Floyd Cooper

CHALLENGING WORDS
always
attention
jigsaw
knew
knocked
laughter
neighborhood
scared
stomach
worried

SUMMARY
Tamika loves everything about her grandpa, especially his expressive face. But one day, when Tamika watches Grandpa rehearsing for a play, she sees a different face, one she has never seen before.

--- Conversation Questions---

(1) Explain the main idea of the story.
(Answer) Acting is just pretending, and love is real.
(Follow Up) What way your favorite part of the story?

(2) Imagine you were Tamika. Tell how you would feel about Grandpa’s changing expressions.
(Answer) Any logical answer.
(Follow Up) Would you know you were always loved?

(3) Suppose you were Tamika and saw Grandpa’s mean face. What would you do?
(Answer) Any logical answer.
(Follow Up) Is there a right or wrong way to react?

(4) Compare a time you got in trouble to Tamika’s experience.
(Answer) Any logical answer.
(Follow Up) Should you play with your food?

(5) Define pretend.
(Answer) To make believe or act in a false way.
(Follow Up) Do you like to pretend?

(6) Name what Grandpa did in the summer.
(Answer) He was an actor.
(Follow Up) Do you know an actor or actress?
State why Tamika got in trouble at the table.

Answer: She was playing with her food and interrupting adults.

Follow Up: Have you ever gotten in trouble at the table?

Find where Tamika and Grandpa went after she got in trouble.

Answer: A ‘talk-walk’ in the park.

Follow Up: Would you like to walk in the park?

Look for the reason Tamika was upset.

Answer: She was afraid Grandpa would look at her with the mean face and that he couldn’t love her anymore.

Follow Up: Have you ever felt similar to Tamika?

Search for what Grandpa did on the walk home.

Answer: He stopped to talk to an old friend.

Follow Up: Do you think it is fun to see old friends?

Activities

1. Draw and label a picture of Grandpa pretending to be someone else.

2. Write a different ending to the story from the point Tamika got in trouble at the table.

3. Write a note to Grandpa from Tamika telling him how he makes her feel.

4. Write a summary of the story.

Introductions

1. Show the book. Ask children what they think the book is about. Today we are reading about a little girl and her relationship with her grandpa.

2. Have pictures of different facial expressions. Ask students to describe how they feel about each one. Today we are reading about a little girl who gets upset when she sees her grandpa make a mean face.

3. Write the word FAMILY. Have children talk about who they think of when they see that word. Discuss relationships between family members. Today we are reading a story about a little girl and her grandpa who are very close.
Building Oral Vocabulary

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**Prediction Questions**

7 What will Tamika do now

15 Do you think Tamika is in big trouble?

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