Full, Full, Full of Love

Trish Cooke 2003 Cambridge, Candlewick Press

LOVE

CONCEPTS

Love Patience

SUMMARY

This book is full of love, warmth, and comfort from the cover to the very last page. Jay Jay, the youngest member of his family, spends a Sunday afternoon alone with Gran. Setting the table, feeding the fish, looking out the window, Jay Jay asks repeatedly, "Is dinner ready NOW, Gran?" Over and over Gran replies, "Not yet." Snuggled in Gran's arms, Jay Jay waits patiently until the family finally arrives for Sunday dinner at Gran's house, a joyous event well worth the wait. Paul Howard's warm illustrations enhance the rhythmic prose.

OBJECTIVE

Children will recognize love related to parents, grandparents, and extended families. They will be encouraged to practice patience.

Circle Time (in the Heartwood Circle)

PREVIEW

- I. Read the title, show some illustrations, and have children repeat couplets such as "Kiss, kiss. Hugs and cuddles."
- Ask children to find LOVE on the Heartwood attribute poster.
- 3. Show contents of the Prop Box, such as dress-up clothes, pillows, dolls or family play figures, a tablecloth, play food, dishes, cups, plastic spoons and forks, slippers, oven mitts, and a copy of *Full, Full, Full of Love*.

Full, Full, Full of Love

READING

- Read the story interactively with children repeating rhythmic couplets such as "Clink Clank, Clatter, Clatter, Splash, Splish. Wiggle, Wiggle." Together ask, "Is dinner ready now?"
- 2. Reread the story leaving blanks for the children to fill in with predictable responses. Example: "Jay Jay said," "I'm going to pop!" and Cousin said_____."
- 3. Read So Much, Trish Cooke's prequel to Full, Full, Full of Love.

After the Story

DISCUSSION

Name family members in the story who are full of love, such as Mom, Gran, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Who is full of love in your family? How do Jay Jay and his Gran show love? How do you show love to your family?

After the Story (cont.)

ACTIVITIES

- 1. Have children take turns telling about a special time with a grandparent, how they helped a family member, or helped with a happy family event.
- 2. Together practice patience while waiting for a special snack, program, or visitor. Have children choose a game, task, or activity to occupy themselves while waiting.
- 3. Under the caption LOVE, post photographs of children with relatives. Keep a disposable camera ready to snap pictures of children greeting parents, grandparents, and special friends at the end of the school day.

WRAP-UP

- 1. Have a "Grandparents Day." Invite grandparents to visit your classroom, read books, and enjoy a snack together.
- 2. In My Heartwood Journal ask children to draw pictures of people they love. Record children's thoughts about what they drew.

EXTENSION

Children complete the Home Connection Page and teachers record responses. Send these pages home to families.

Expressive Arts

DRAMA/LANGUAGE

- 1. Prop Box: Use items in the box for retelling and acting out the story or for small group creative play.
- 2. Mini-Manners Plays*: With finger puppets, model love and/or patience. For example:

Puppet 1: Hi Grandpa!

Puppet1: Are we there yet?

Puppet 2: Hi! _

Are we almost there?

Puppet I: I love you.

Puppet 2: Soon.

Puppet 2: I love you too.

Puppet 1: It's hard to wait.

Puppet 2: I know.

3. Teach children to sign the words "mother," "father," "grandmother," and "grandfather." Explain that lay lay calls his grandmother "Gran." Ask for some other names for grandparents.

ART

- 1. Together make "Family Memory Boxes." Provide each child with a pencil box, shoebox, or other box with a lid. Have children decorate the outside of their boxes and put small mementos inside that remind them of special family events, such as ribbon from a birthday gift, stone from a hike, or program from a school performance. Children may add to their boxes during the school year and share mementos and stories with their classmates.
- 2. Have children draw and color favorite foods on a sheet of brown wrapping paper. Use as a "tablecloth" at snack time. Set the table and model good manners and patience by waiting until everyone has food before eating.

MUSIC/MOVEMENT

- 1. Sing the singing game "If You're Happy and You Know It," adding motions related to love such as "blow a kiss" or "wave hello."
- 2. Sing or listen to traditional folk songs such as "Skinnamarink a Dink a Dink" and "The More We Get Together."
- 3. Sing "Let's Think of Something to Do" by Fred M. Rogers.
- 4. Listen to Globalullabies by Freyda during rest time.

^{*}Visit www.heartwoodethics.org and choose Resources, Pre-K/K for additional vignettes, downloadables, and other activities.