

Cloverbuds: Good Vibrations: The Science of Sound

Things to Try at Home

Family Stories

Materials:

Family photos and/or items connected to special family memories

Song and Dance Man by Karen Ackerman

What to do:

- Read together *Song and Dance Man* by Karen Ackerman. The Grandpa in the story has a trunk full of items with special memories of his past that he shares with his grandchildren.
- Together look at your own family's pictures and special items. Share stories about the family members and events in the pictures or stories connected to the items.
- Story starters: Tell *who* is in the story. Share both the person's name and their relationship to your child. This is a picture of Vita Calderon, she is your great aunt, and she is your Grandfather's little sister. Tell *where* the story takes place. This picture was taken in the house your Grandfather grew up in Philadelphia. Tell *when* the story takes place. This picture was taken when your Grandfather was six years old. Tell *what* event prompted the story. This picture was taken at the Thanksgiving dinner after Vita's first birthday and she spilled a bowl of cranberry jelly on Great-grandmother's fancy tablecloth. Tell *how* the story connects to your child. Every Thanksgiving we still use that same tablecloth and the youngest children in the family always sit nearest the spot where little Vita spilled the bowl of cranberry jelly. That's why you and your cousin Abby always sit by that pink moon shape during Thanksgiving dinner and Grandpa always smiles when you do.
- Answer questions your child may have about the story or people in the story.
- Write down special details about the story to keep with the photos or items to help your child remember the story later.

Talk about:

What makes our family stories different from stories in books?

What kinds of stories do you like to listen to?