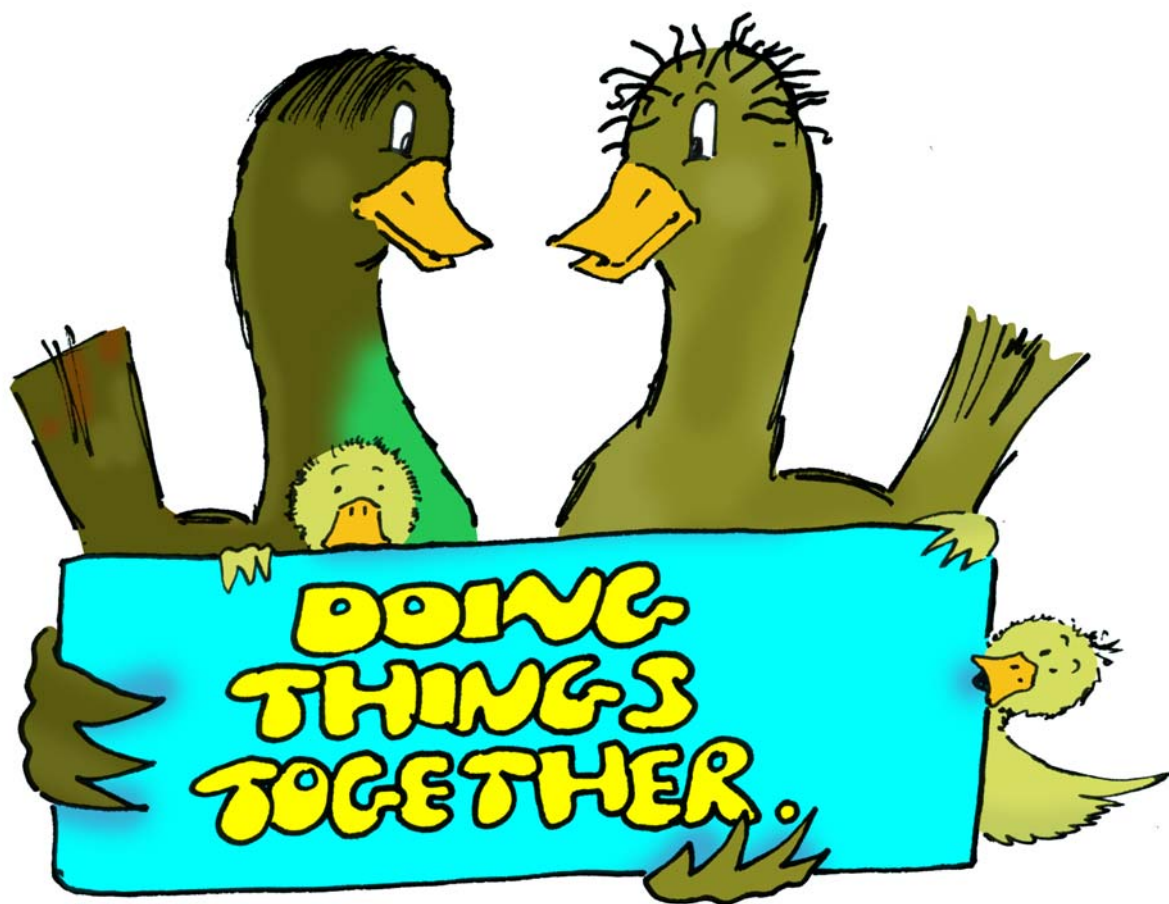
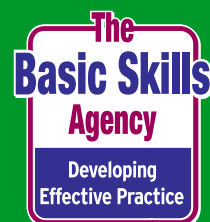


Good practice cards

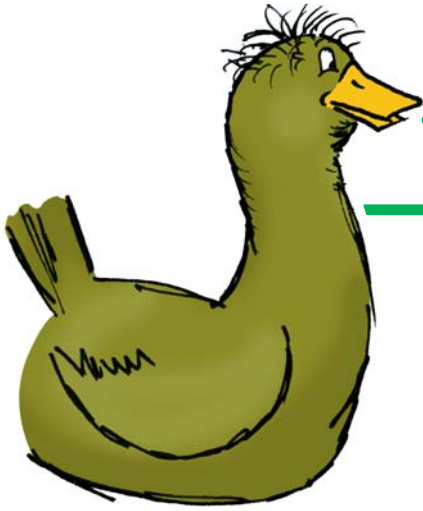


Working with Grandparents

Ian Gyllenspetz



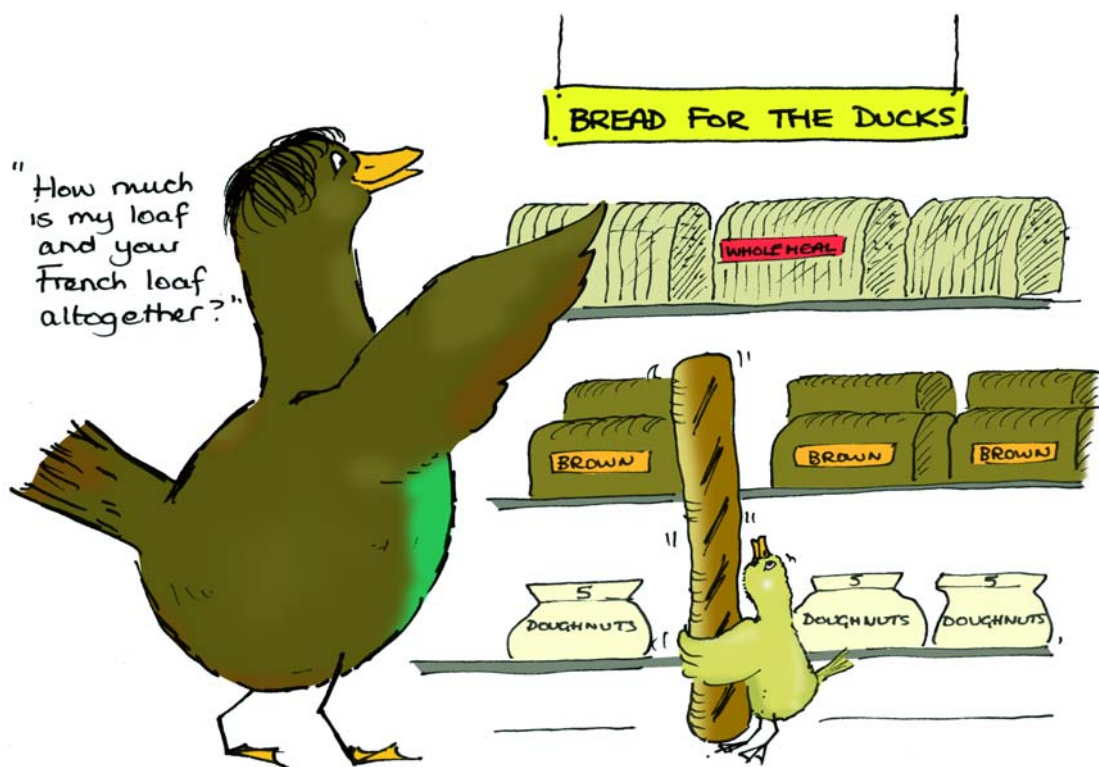
Shopping



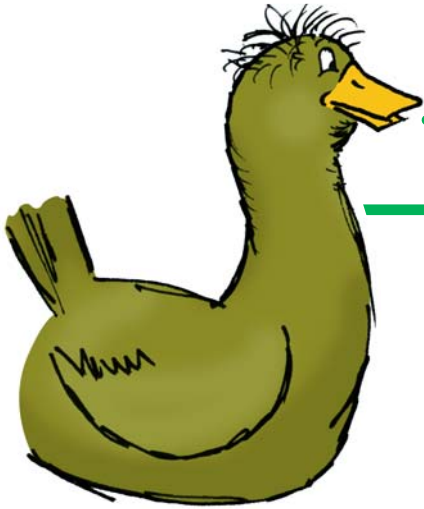
Mahmuda helps her grandmother write the shopping list. Then she looks for the items on the shelves. This helps Mahmuda improve her reading skills.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Julia's grandson finds particular items in the supermarket. He works out how much they cost before Julia pays for them at the till.
2. Phil's granddaughter looks to see what's missing from the fridge and then writes the shopping list for him.
3. Christina makes her grandchildren write the list of what they'd like for Christmas or for their birthdays and they look at catalogues for ideas.
4. Gloria's grandchildren write a list of healthy and non-healthy foods.



Cooking



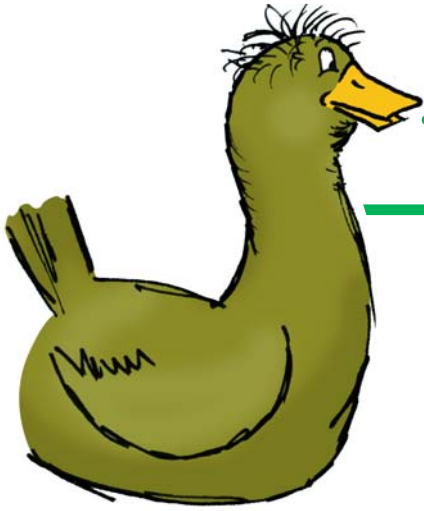
Simon loves cooking with his grandmother. His grandmother teaches him to read the names of different ingredients, shows him how to use the equipment and helps him to measure using the scales and measuring jug.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. When Erica cooks, her granddaughter comes to the kitchen and asks her the names of different types of food and ingredients. Erica loves to tell her the names and asks her later if she remembers them.
2. Christina is keen to learn how to cook, so her grandmother buys her cooking equipment and shows her how to use it.
3. Elaine's five-year-old granddaughter loves cooking and likes to watch and help when her grandmother cooks. Elaine gives her a piece of pastry to make her own shape. They enjoy each other's company in the kitchen.



Family history



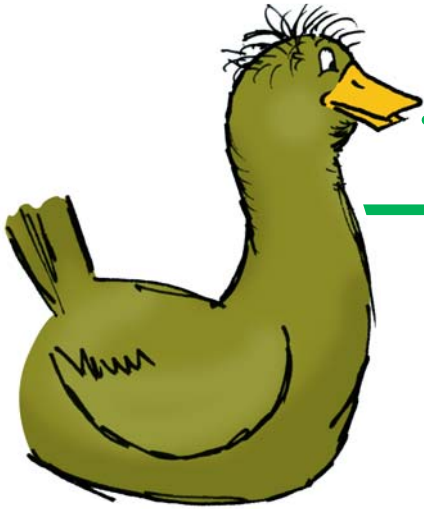
Naznin's grandmother often talks about her family history, culture, and her home in Bangladesh and she tells stories from her childhood. Children enjoy these stories very much.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Elaine's granddaughter loves to hear her tell stories from her childhood in the West Indies. Elaine also tells her how her family came to England.
2. Erica tells her grandson stories of the old West Indies cricket team; how they would wake up early in the morning to listen to the commentary. She also tells him about players like Wesley Hall, Garfield Sobers or Vivian Richards.
3. Katie's family has four generations living at the same time. When all the four generations meet, they talk a lot about family history and their experiences of growing up between the two World Wars.



Gardening



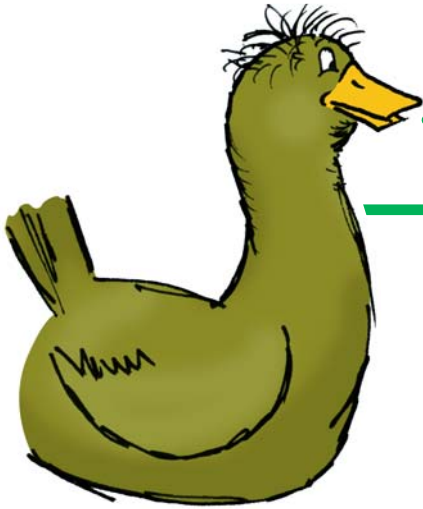
Samantha and her grandmother spend a lot of time gardening. Samantha learns a lot from her grandmother: about the different colours of leaves and flowers, the names of plants, and the slugs, snails and greenfly that might harm them. She finds out how important sunlight and rain are to make plants grow.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Rahela takes so much interest in gardening that she brings plants from school to grow at home. Her grandmother helps her look after the plants.
2. Christina loves to find out about plants with her grandchildren. If they find something unusual in the garden, they go to the Internet or look in a book to find out what it is.
3. Simon doesn't like tomatoes, so his grandmother gave him two tomato plants and said that he should water them and when the tomatoes grow, he should eat them. Simon looks after the plants diligently.
4. Gloria's grandchildren go to their grandmother's garden where she teaches them about different types of vegetables and flowers. With support from their grandmother, some of them have grown plants in their own garden.



Keeping in touch



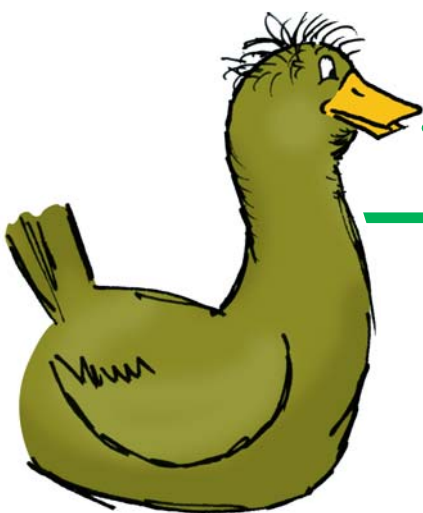
Anisa calls her grandfather every day to tell him what she has been doing. Her grandfather tells her what he's been doing, too.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Jane helps Samantha to write letters to her Mum. Jane also helps Samantha send text messages from her mobile saying things like, 'I love you Mum' or 'I miss you'.
2. Gloria's granddaughter makes cards for family birthdays. Gloria helps her write on the cards.
3. Erica's granddaughter taught her how to send text messages. She now prefers to text the family in Jamaica as it is much cheaper.
4. Jennifer's granddaughter writes letters in her notebook and asks her grandmother to check them. The child e-mails them to relatives.
5. David has his own address book. His grandmother helps him put in the phone numbers and addresses.



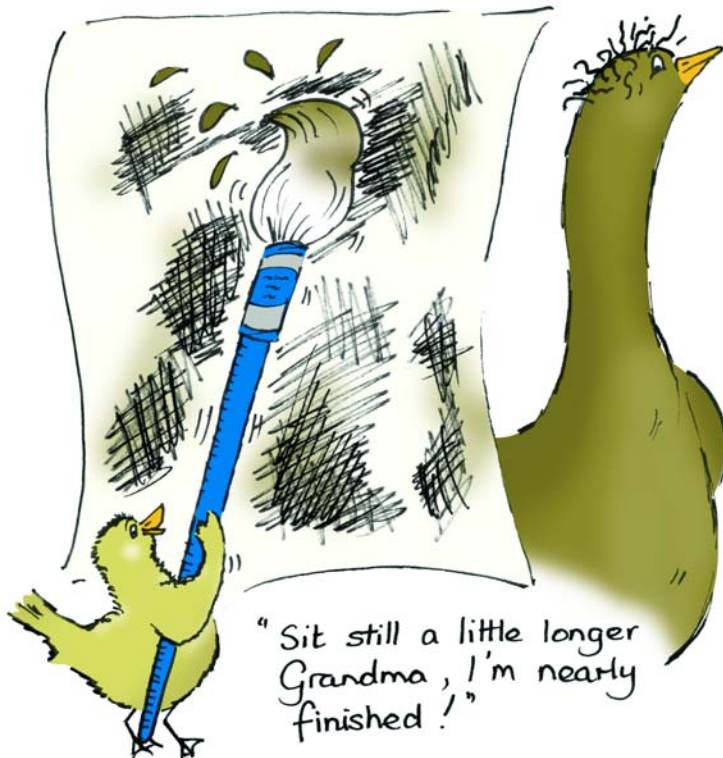
Drawing and painting



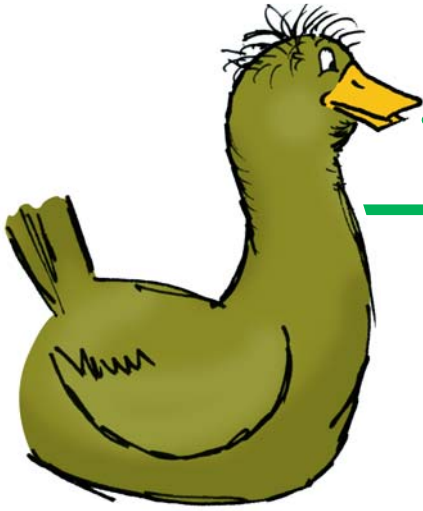
Emily's grandmother helps her with her drawing. She has a collection of crayons, pencils, glue, scissors and paper in a shoebox for when Emily comes to see her.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Phil sketches for his grandchildren and asks them to colour the pictures.
2. Gloria asks her grandchildren to collect leaves from the garden and then draw or paste them into a scrapbook.
3. Julia loves to help her grandson with his drawing, particularly when he puts his hand on a piece of paper and draws around the fingers.
4. Iqbal's grandmother helps him with his drawing and asks him to write the names of things he draws.



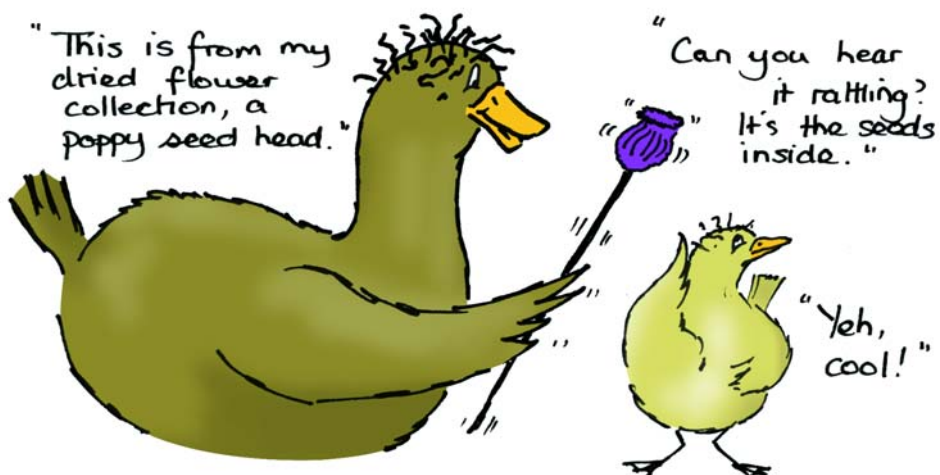
The world around you



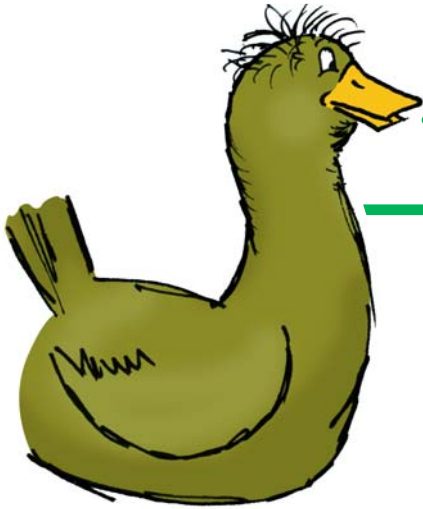
Gloria takes her grandchildren to the beach where they collect stones and shells, and build sandcastles together. Coming back home, they colour the stones or paint them to make decorations. Gloria teaches them about different colours, shapes and sizes.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Phil plays 'I spy' in the car with his grandchildren.
2. Elizabeth's granddaughter likes to read street and shop names. Elizabeth asks her granddaughter to count the number of shops she finds during the journey. She also asks her granddaughter if she can guess what type of shop it is from the name.
3. Emily often takes her grandchildren to the zoo. Her grandson loves animals. Emily regularly receives e-mails from the zoo, which her grandson reads to find out about the events taking place there.
4. Last year Lydia visited her birthplace, Barbados, and brought back a map of the Caribbean island. Eric, her grandson, has never been there, but wants to know all about his grandmother's home. Lydia shows him different places in Barbados on the map. This helps Eric understand how a map works; now he can read a map.



Playing together



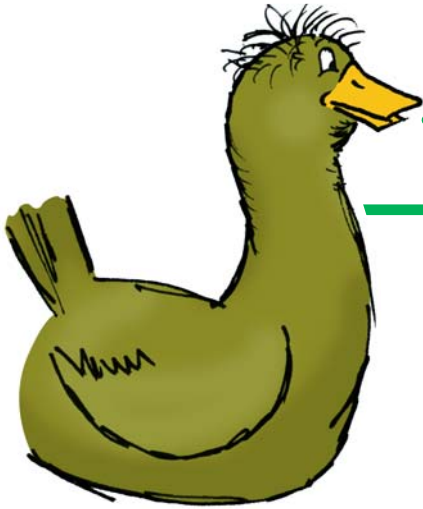
Phil plays 'schools' with his grandchild where the child is teacher and he is the pupil. He also plays 'countries' names' with his grandson. One says a letter and the other has to say a country beginning with that letter.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Amanda's grandson plays a 'restaurant game' with her where one is the customer and the other writes down the order.
2. Eric is football crazy and passionately supports West Ham United. His grandfather, equally football crazy, often plays football with him.
3. Phil likes teaching his grandson to ride a bike. He teaches him road sense at the same time!



Reading, writing and reciting together



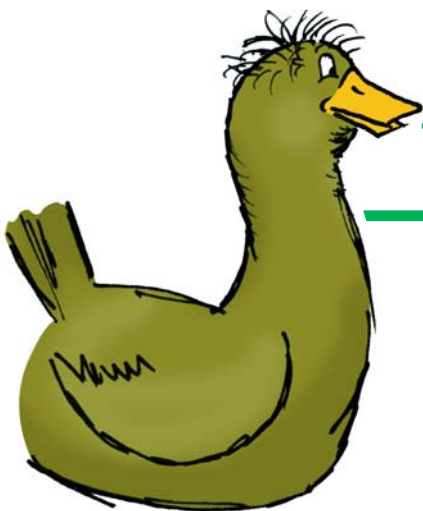
Kerim's grandfather reads him a Turkish version of 'Snow White'. Sometimes they read the story in English. He often asks Kerim to spell or write a word.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Phil writes poetry with his grandson. His grandson composes poems, which he helps develop.
2. Amanda bought a diary for her granddaughter and helped her write the front page. She sees what her granddaughter has written every week.
3. Samantha's grandmother sings the nursery rhymes she learnt when she was a child. Iqbal's grandmother often reads Bengali poems and her grandchildren repeat them with her. Through this, children learn rhyme, rhythm and new words.
4. Mavis has children's storybooks at home so that she can read them to her grandchildren when they come to visit her.
5. Every day after dinner, Julia's six-year-old granddaughter comes to the kitchen to read some part of her storybook with Julia. Julia helps her granddaughter read the book and gives her a pat on the back or a hug each time she reads something properly.
6. Erica keeps a children's version of the Bible at home for her grandchildren. She reads them stories from the Bible, which they enjoy a lot. She finds that the Bible helps children improve their vocabulary.



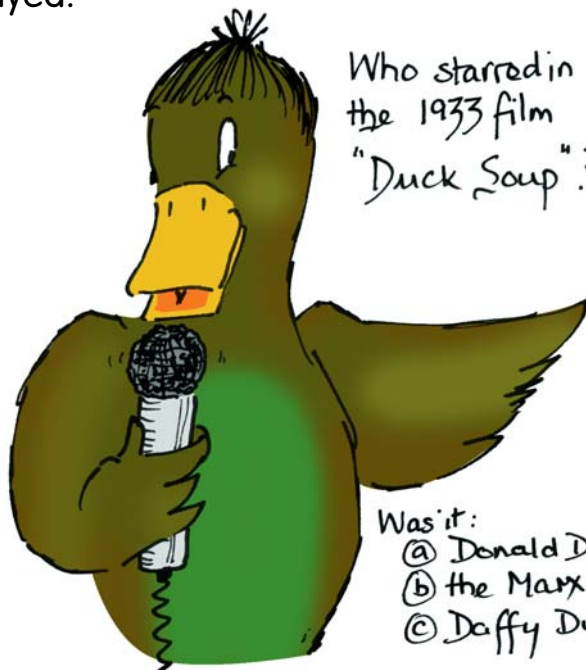
Games & quizzes



Elizabeth and Katie play with their grandmother singing and dancing the 'a b c' song.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

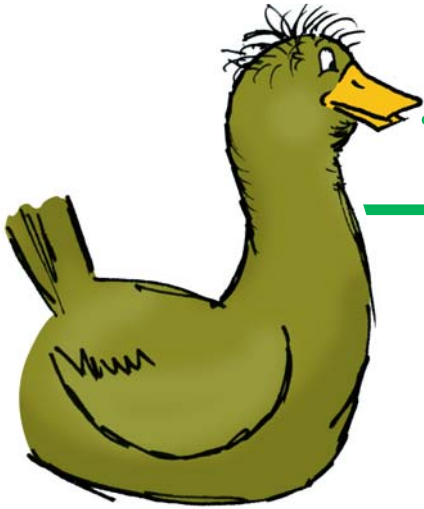
1. Asiye and her grandson try to find boys' or girls' names beginning with all the letters of the alphabet.
2. Christina plays a 'treasure hunting' game by asking her grandchildren to find something from the garden beginning with a particular letter.
3. Mahmuda's grandmother plays Lego with her and helps her to build castles, aeroplanes and animals.
4. Gloria plays dominoes with her grandchildren. She helps them with their counting skills by doing this.
5. Victoria plays board games like Scrabble, Draughts, Snakes & Ladders and sometimes Monopoly with her grandchildren. She helps them understand how each game is played.



Who starred in
the 1933 film
"Duck Soup"?

Was it:
(a) Donald Duck;
(b) the Marx Brothers;
(c) Daffy Duck ?

Fun with counting

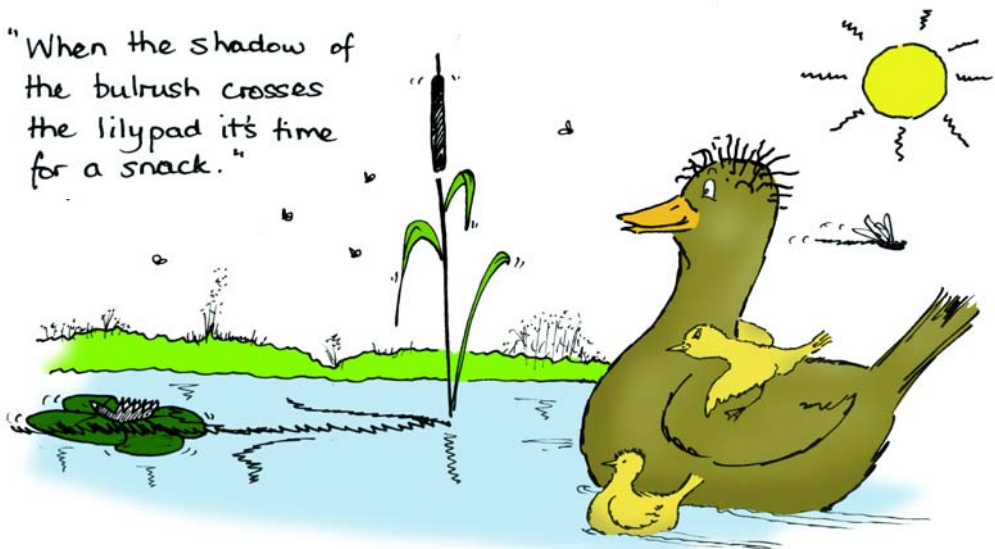


Simon's grandmother gives him money to buy his own things. He looks at the price on the shelves and then works out how much he can buy. His grandmother helps him work out how much they cost.

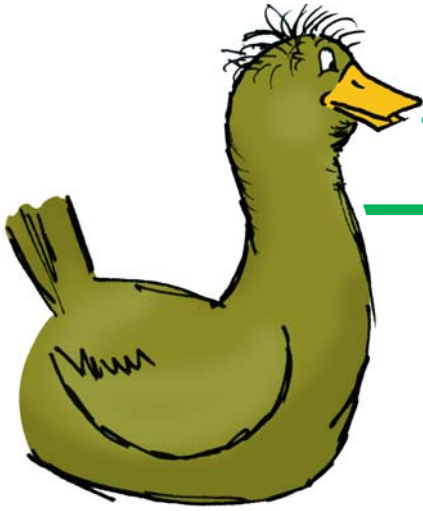
A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. In the supermarket, Anisa's grandmother asks her to check the price of an item and work out how much it would cost to buy four or five of them. She helps Anisa work out the right price.
2. Obuya's grandmother taught him to recognise coins. Obuya has a 'piggy' bank and saves silver coins. His grandmother sometimes helps him count them.
3. Samantha's grandmother is teaching her how to tell the time from the clock.
4. Gloria and her grandson fix times to visit friends or go to the park. She asks him to tell her when it's time to leave.
5. Jane plays a card game called Uno with her grandchildren where the children learn to count in their heads when adding up their scores.

"When the shadow of the bulrush crosses the lily pad it's time for a snack."



Fun with computers



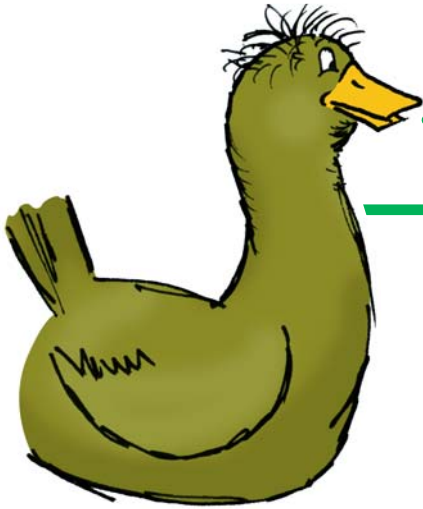
David loves to play computer games. His grandmother is now learning about the computer so that she can use it as a tool for doing creative learning activities with her grandson.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Gloria bought some CDs of educational programmes for her grandchild.
2. Elaine bought a computer programme called 'Play and Learn'. Every month a new programme comes, which teaches children counting, and how to use a computer keyboard. Elaine plays the games with her younger grandchildren and helps them use the programme.
3. Linda tries to keep one step ahead of her grandchildren so that she knows what they are doing with their computers. She watches carefully to see what they are downloading, and uses a parental control programme to protect them.



Television



Phil watches 'Mastermind' together with his granddaughter who is in Year 6. They also watch 'Countdown' together, because it's easier for them to answer the questions.

A few more ideas from grandparents, take your pick!

1. Samantha regularly watches television cookery programmes with her grandmother and they discuss the food and recipes while they watch.
2. Penny and her grandmother watch 'Who wants to be a millionaire?' together and try to find out how many questions they can answer.
3. Rahela speaks English at school and Bengali at home. Her grandmother helps her learn Bengali through watching Bengali TV channels together.



For more information contact:
The Basic Skills Agency
Commonwealth House
1–19 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1NU
Tel: 020 7440 6519
E-mail: dep@basic-skills.co.uk
www.basic-skills.co.uk/dep

Further copies available from
The Basic Skills Agency
PO Box 5050
Sherwood Park
Annesley
Nottingham NG15 0DL
Tel: 0870 600 2400
Fax: 0870 600 2401

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