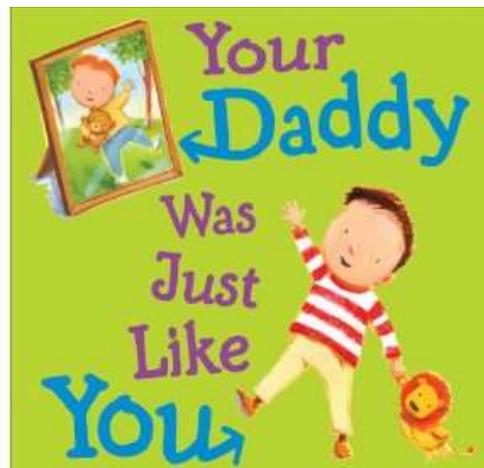


A Teacher's Activity Guide for
Your Daddy Was Just Like You

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Published by G. P. Putman's Sons
The Penguin Young Readers Group

Teacher's Guide written by Debbie Gonzales

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Your Daddy Was Just Like You

Discussion Questions

1. Do you find it odd to think of a big, grown up man like Daddy was once a baby? Is it strange to think that this big, strong man was once helpless? That he had to learn things like crawling and walking and even how to talk?
2. Does it seem silly to think that Daddy once enjoyed playing with soft, baby toys?
3. Why do you think the boy wanted the doctor to give his teddy bear a shot before he got one? Could it be that he was scared that the shot might hurt? Is it hard to think that a grown man might have been frightened in the very same way when he was little?
4. Why do you think the boy was afraid to go to school? Is it hard to go to a new place where you know no one at all? Is it kind of amazing to think that Daddy was once fearful in this same way?
5. What did the boy do to get better with his math skills? What does it mean 'to practice'? Is it okay to make mistakes? Can we learn any lessons from our mistakes? How so?
6. Is it possible to lose a game and still enjoy yourself? What does it mean to be a good sport? Do you know what it means to have a good attitude in sports and in life?
7. Strange to think that Daddy was little he got 'in trouble' and had to sit in 'time out'. What is 'time-out' anyway? Is it important? How? Why? Is it good to have a quiet moment to think about mistakes you may have made? Ways to change behaviors or attitudes? It is nice to know that Daddy understands what it means to make mistakes, go to 'time out', and decide to make a change. Don't you agree?
8. It is strange to think that Daddy, so big and brave, was once afraid of the night, isn't it? That he once became terrified of being alone in the dark with nothing but a teddy bear to calm him. Do you think that, because Daddy experienced these fears when he was young, he understands the boy's feelings even more? That Daddy has compassion for the boy?
9. Is playing with baby things a normal part of growing up? Being afraid of being hurt? Making mistakes? Trying again? Winning sometimes? Losing often? Getting in trouble? Being afraid? How do you think the boy in story feels about knowing that his Daddy had similar experiences when he was young? That all people grow, have fears, make mistakes, feel sad and happy, and have so much to learn before they grow up?

Three Vocabulary Building/Object Matching Games

*First he crawled, then he tippy-toddled.
He said, "Oogie, boogie, bah bah lou." Just like you.*

Objective: To enhance letter/word discrimination, object association, and to develop vocabulary.

Materials:

- Matrix 1 consisting of picture and word labels
- Matrix 2 consisting of pictures only
- Matrix 3 consisting of word labels only
- White cardstock
- Scissors
- Laminator (if so desired)

Preparation:

- Print two copies of Matrix 1 on cardstock.
- Print one copy of Matrix 2 and 3 on cardstock.
- Using **one** copy of Matrix 1, cut out all labels.
- Laminate all game pieces.

Procedure:

- Sort label cards by placing the pictures in one stack and the words in another. Encourage the child to name objects and to identify letters and words.
- Using Matrix 1, encourage the child to match the pictures and words in the correct spots on the game board.
- In using Matrix 2, use Matrix 1 as a guide to discover the proper word label placement beneath the appropriate picture.
- With Matrix 3, use Matrix 1 as a guide to discover the proper picture placement above the correct word label.

Follow Up:

- Remind the child that there was once a time when the significant adult in their life did not know how the words for these objects or even how to read the words. Focus on the language skills this activity fosters, celebrating the linguistic confidence being developed within the child.
- Thumb through *Your Daddy Was Just Like You* in search of the pages that illustrate the development of language. Also, try to find the objects featured on the game board in the pages of the book.



baby



ball



bath tub toys



book



drum



snorkel



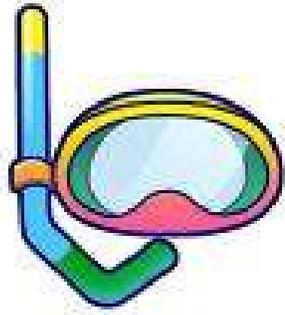
teddy bear



pencil



fins



teddy bear

drum

baby

fins

snorkle

book

bath tub toys

pencil

ball

Five Super Star Math Games

But your Daddy practiced. And learned.

And kept getting smarter and smarter.

Just like you.

Objective: To develop quantity and numeral discrimination.

Materials:

- Sheet A (1-4)
- Sheet B (5 -8)
- Sheet C (9-12)
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Laminator (if so desired)

Preparation:

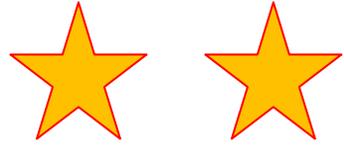
- Print 2 copies of Sheets A, B, and C.
- Using one copy of each Sheet; cut out star quantity and numeral cards.
- Laminate cards and sheets, if so desired.

Procedures:

1. Match quantity and numeral cards by placing loose labels over the guide formed by the uncut versions of Sheets A, B, and C or;
2. Using the uncut sheet versions as reference only if necessary, associate the correct star quantity and numeral or;
3. Remove the uncut sheet versions from view. Horizontally lay the star quantity cards in correct numeral sequence. Encourage the child to match the correct numeral beneath the quantity or;
4. Remove the uncut sheet version from view. Horizontally lay the numeral labels in correct numeric sequence. Encourage the child to match the correct star quantity above the numeral label or;
5. Without use of any adult or guide assistance, encourage the child to sequence and match all cards independently.

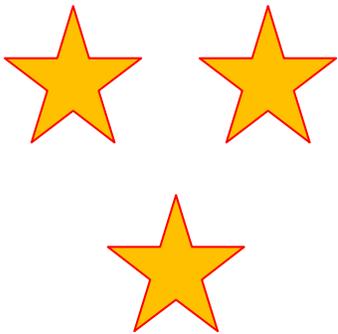
Follow Up:

- Remind the child that there was once a time when the significant adult in their life did not know how to count, made many mistakes in learning, and had to practice to get good in math. Focus on the level of mathematic ability this activity fosters, celebrating the intellectual confidence being developed within the child.
- Thumb through *Your Daddy Was Just Like You* in search of the pages that illustrate the stages of development required to become mathematically proficient.
- Discuss the notion that making mistakes is merely part of the learning process. Errors are simple stepping stones to learning.
- Discuss how practice leads to mastery of skills.



1

2

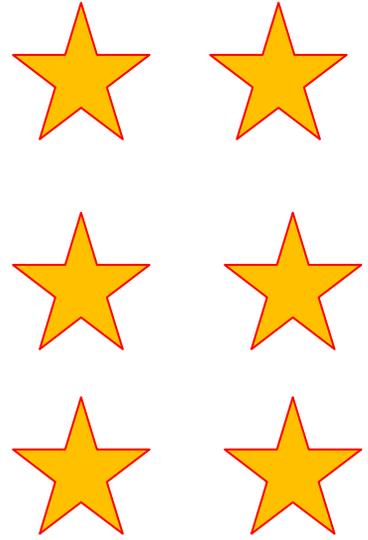


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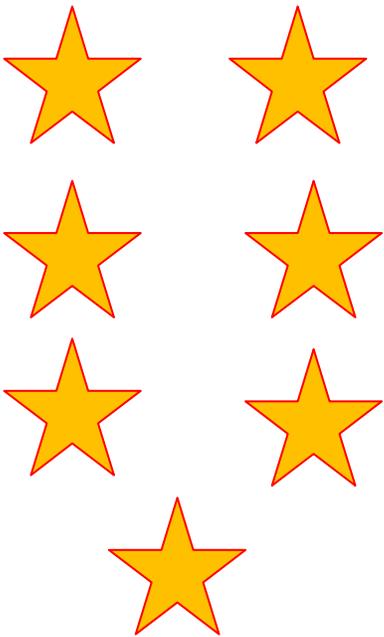
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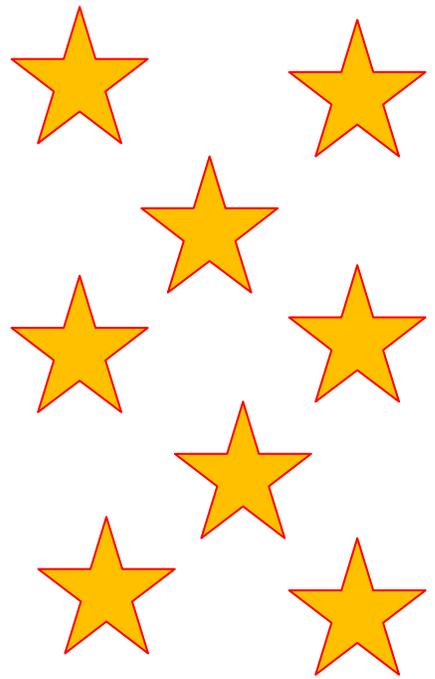
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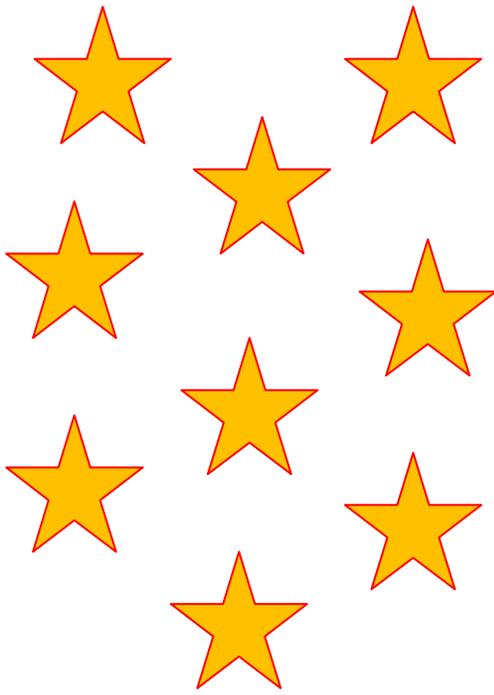
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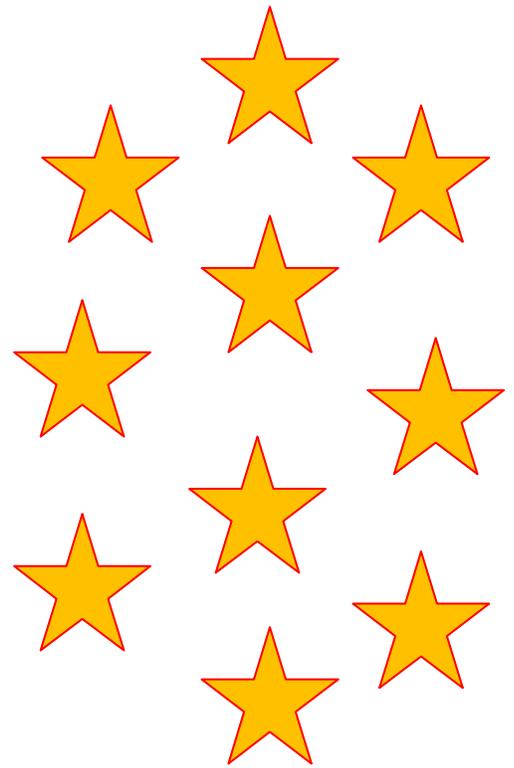
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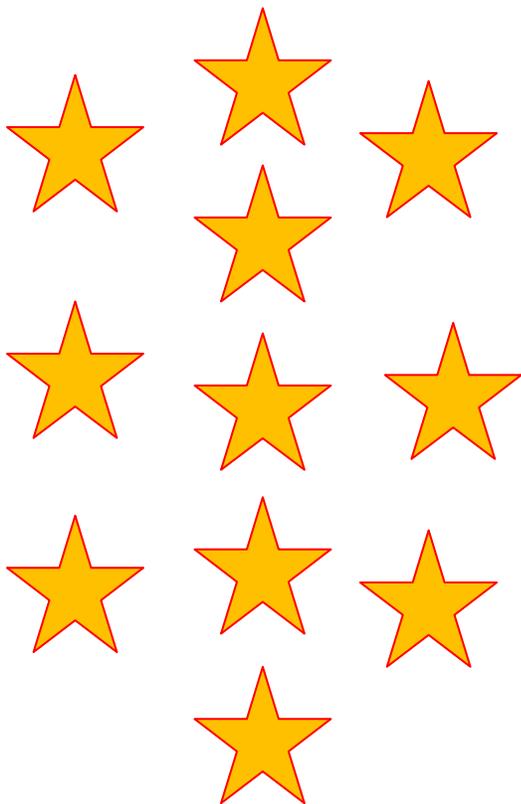
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Sweet Heart Art

Most days your daddy was my sweet boy.

Objective: To develop fine motor skills.

Materials:

- Construction paper – contrasting colors
- Cardstock
- Cutting Guide Template (pg 13)
- Ruler
- Tracing pencil or Sharpie
- Glue stick
- Scissors

Preparation:

- Print Cutting Guide on a sheet of cardstock (pg 14, step 3).
- Cut template on lines.
- Trace template on 5 X 7 piece of construction paper. Make certain that the lines drawn are distinct enough for the young child to use as a cutting guide (pg. 14, step 4).

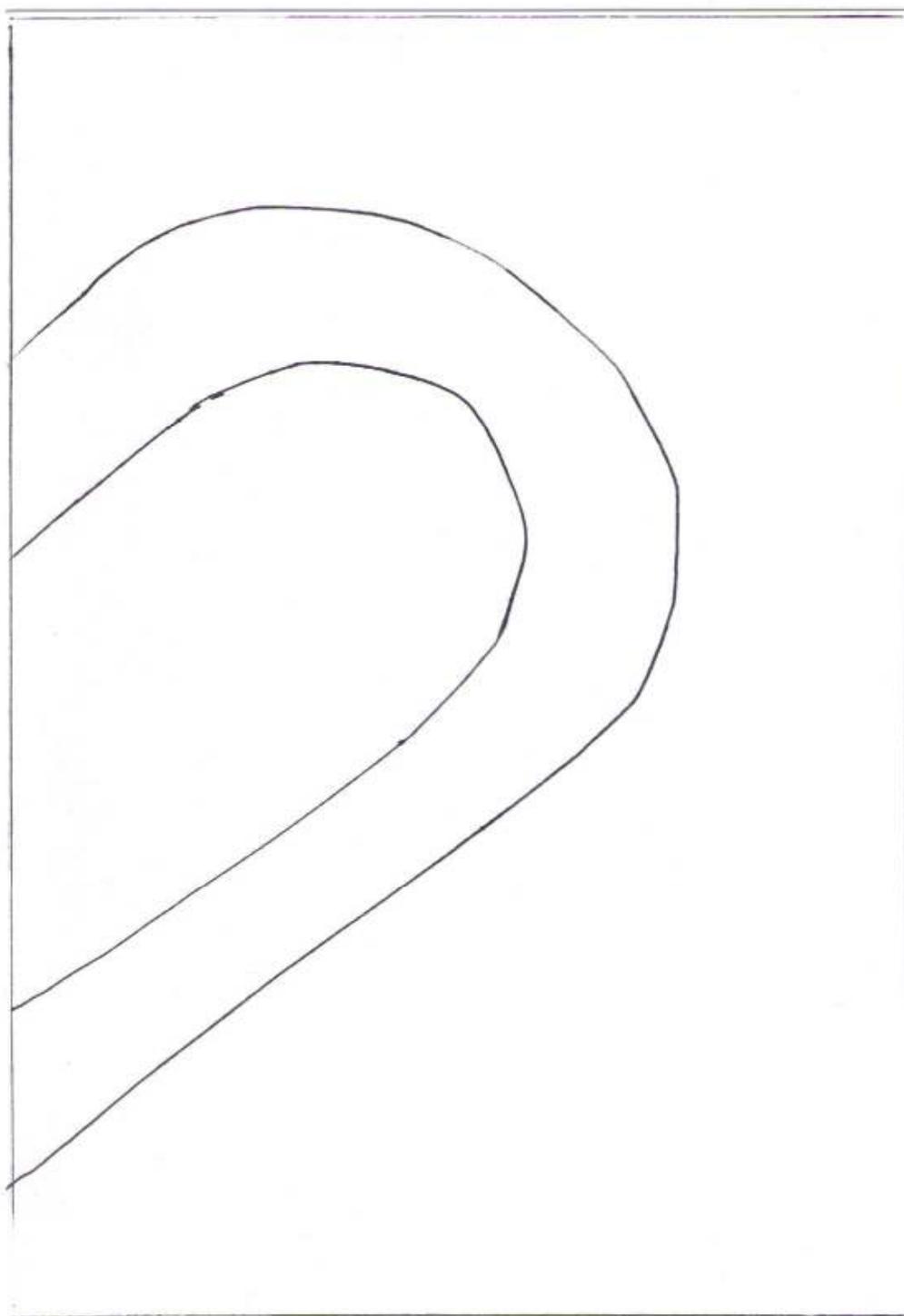
Procedure:

- Encourage the child to cut out the shape traced on the construction paper (pg. 14, step 4)
- Glue the larger half heart-shaped outline on a piece of contrasting construction paper (pg 14, step 5).
- Create a heart using negative space by gluing the smaller half-heart shape by meeting end points of each piece and flipping the smaller piece in an opposing manner (pg. 14, step 5).
- For variation, cut the heart-shaped template into a multi-strip design. Secure with glue for a more elaborate positive-negative effect (pg. 14, step 6).

Follow Up:

- Acknowledge the wide array of skills required to create this piece of heart-shaped art.
- Thumb through *Your Daddy Was Just Like You* in search of illustration featuring the boy displaying his drawing. Study his expression. What does his expression suggest about the way he is feeling?
- Discuss what it feels like to give someone a gift you have made especially for them. What does it feel like to make someone happy?

Cutting Guide Template



Step-by-Step Pictorial Guide for Sweet Heart Art



Step 1: Gather the supplies: construction paper, glue stick, scissors, cutting guide template printed on cardstock, ruler, Sharpie, two pieces of construction paper in contrasting colors.



Step 2: Cut one piece of construction paper in half to measure 5 inches by 8 inches.



Step 3: Using the cutting guide template, cut along the lines outlining half of a heart-shape.



Step 4: Trace the half heart shape onto construction paper. Note that the open end of the heart shape has been aligned to the edge of the construction paper.



Step 5: Glue the outer edge of the half heart shape on the other piece of construction paper. Align the smaller heart as pictured, creating a complete heart shape by utilizing positive and negative artistic space.



Step 6: For the advanced artist – cut the half heart-shapes in a series of thin strips. Glue in the same fashion. Note how interesting use of positive and negative space.

Super Hero Mask

...or he swooped through the house in a cape and a mask.

Objective: To foster imaginative play.

Materials:

- Scissors
- Straight pins
- Dark fabric (perhaps a worn tee shirt)
- A cape made from a towel, pillowcase , or a baby blanket
- Mask pattern print out (pg. 16)

Preparation:

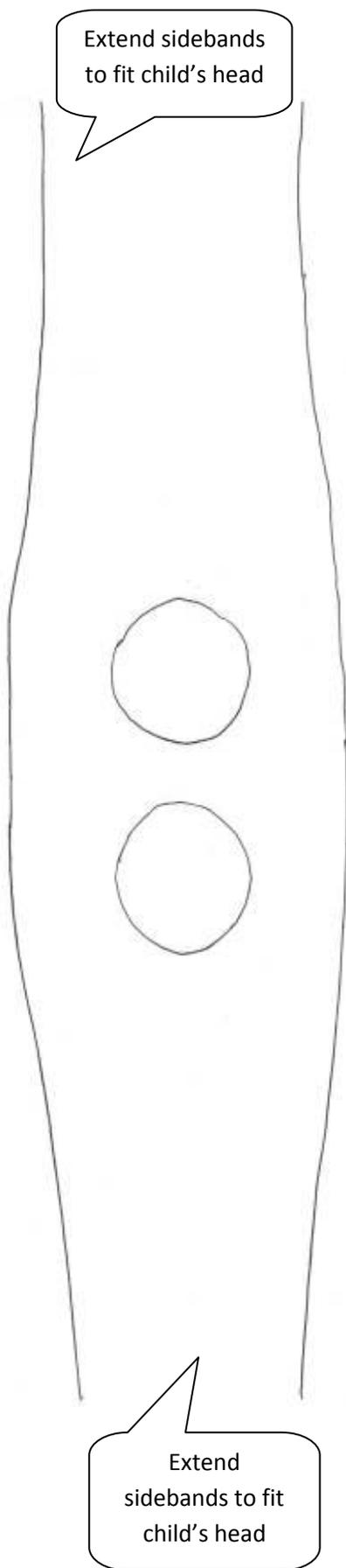
- Print mask pattern (pg. 16).
- Check the length of Super Hero cape making certain that it will not become tangled around the child's ankles while playing.

Procedure:

- Cut out sides and eye holes.
- Pin pattern to fabric.
- Cut the mask sides and eye holes, being certain to elongate strips to tie around the back of the head
- Tie mask on head. Tie cape loosely around neck.
- Have fun being a Super Hero!

Follow Up:

- Discuss the notion that it seems strange to think that Daddy, a big grown man, once enjoyed pretend play. What sorts of games does the child think that Daddy might have enjoyed playing when he was a young boy? Would the child like to play similar types of games today?
- Thumb through *Your Daddy Was Just Like You* in search of illustration featuring the boy pretending to be a Super Hero. Study his expression. What does his expression suggest about the way he is feeling?



Homemade Bathtub Soap Crayons

*Your daddy never wanted to take a bath.
But once he was in the tub, he never wanted to get out.*

Objective: To have a squeaky clean good time in the bath tub.

Materials:

- Powdered soap flakes
- **Hot** water
- Food coloring
- Large mixing bowl
- Wooden spoons
- Small bowls
- Paper muffin cups
- A muffin tin
- Measuring cup
- Refrigerator

Procedure:

- Place muffin papers in the muffin tin.
- Pour 4 cups of soap flakes in the large mixing bowl.
- Gradually wet mixture with hot, hot, hot water.
- Stir. Stir. Stir until mixture becomes thick and smooth.
- Transfer a cupful of mixture into a smaller bowl.
- Squeeze a generous amount of food coloring into the mixture and stir, blending the color with the mixture.
- Spoon mixture in muffin tin. Fill cups half full.
- Repeat until all cups are filled.
- Place muffin tin in refrigerator overnight.
- Remove from refrigerator. Peel papers off soap crayons.
- Hop in the bathtub. Draw on ceramic tile or side of tub with your Homemade Soap Crayons.

Follow Up:

- It seems strange to think that Daddy, a big grown man, didn't want to do some of the same things that a child doesn't want to do, doesn't it? Things like taking a simple bath.
- Thumb through *Your Daddy Was Just Like You* in search of illustration featuring the boy taking a bubble bath. Study his expression. What does his expression suggest about the way he is feeling?
- Ask the child if they have ever dreaded doing something only to find out that it was actually a fun thing to do? Encourage the child to elaborate on the experience.

Step-by-Step Guide for Homemade Bathtub Crayons



Step 1: Pour 4 cups of soap flakes in the large mixing bowl. Gradually wet mixture with hot, hot, hot water. Stir. Stir. Stir until mixture becomes thick and smooth.



Step 2: Transfer a cupful of mixture into a smaller bowl.



Step 3: Squeeze a generous amount of food coloring into the mixture and stir, blending the color with the mixture.



Step 4: Spoon mixture in muffin tin. Fill cups half full. Repeat until all cups are filled. Place muffin tin in refrigerator overnight.



Step 5: Peel papers off soap crayons.



Step 6: Hop in the bathtub. Draw on ceramic tile or side of tub with your Homemade Soap Crayons.

Topsy-Turvy Daddy Drawing

Imagine what it would be like if you were Daddy and Daddy were you. You're the grown-up. Daddy is the child. What would that be like? Imagine that you're the one to help Daddy walk or talk. Or you might help Daddy to be brave when he is really frightened. Maybe you cheer him on when times are tough or seem unfair, help him to control his anger, or play pretend games with him. Perhaps you calm Daddy's fear of the dark.

In the square below, draw a picture of this Topsy-Turvy Daddy. Feature yourself as the grown up and Daddy as the child.

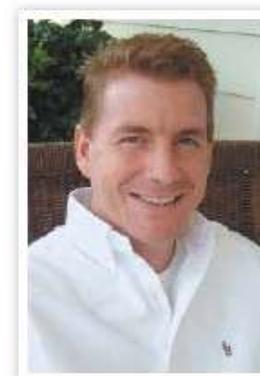


Acknowledgements



Author Kelly Bennett is a native of California, Kelly graduated from Huntington Beach High School in 1976. Upon receiving an Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts from Fullerton College, she continued her education at the University of California at Fullerton and California State University at San Jose, where she majored in Communications with a Public Relations emphasis. Kelly is a graduate of the Vermont College Master of Fine Arts in Writing for Children and Young Adults program. Kelly participates in writing workshops and conferences, and is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and the Author's Guild. Contact Kelly at www.kellybennett.com.

Illustrator David Walker has been drawing and painting all of his life. As a child he was rarely without a sketchbook and pencil. After graduation from the University of Kansas, his first job was as an art director at Hallmark Cards in Kansas City, Missouri. Eventually David decided to begin licensing his own artwork. His days are now spent in his studio in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, working on products ranging from children's books and greeting cards to fabric and scrapbook supplies. His life is a tangle of dogs, cats and kids, and his art is obviously inspired by all of the wonderful chaos that comes with them. Contact David at www.davidwalkerstudios.com.



Debbie Gonzales has worked as a teacher, a school administrator, and educational consultant, an art director and a creative writing workshop instructor. Deb earned her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She has published a number of early-readers with New Zealand's Giltedge Publishing and serves as the Regional Advisor for the Austin SCBWI Chapter. Debbie's blog, *Simple Saturday*, features simply sensational and sometimes quite silly weekly art, science, math, and reading activities suitable for all ages. Contact Debbie at www.debbiegonzales.com.