

# Family Stories: Sharing Memories and Pride

## Check It Out

### *Grandfather's Journey*

by Allen Say  
(Grades 2–3)

Through stories of three generations in a Japanese family, a grandfather proves that home doesn't have to be just one place.

### *Kitao Goes Ice Fishing*

by Margaret Nicolai  
(Grades Pre-K–2)

Five-year-old Kitao is finally old enough to go ice fishing with his grandfather.

### *My Brother Martin*

by Christine King Farris  
(Grades 2–3)

Learn through the eyes of his sister about the multigenerational household where Martin Luther King, Jr. grew up.

### *Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story*

by Ken Mochizuki  
(Grades 2–3)

Hiroki's father has the power to save the lives of thousands of Jewish refugees, but he must betray orders from Japan to do it.

### *Too Young for Yiddish*

by Richard Michelson  
(Grades 2–3)

In this book, bound so it can be read back to front like most Yiddish books, Michelson invites us to join Aaron as he grows to appreciate his grandfather's accent and traditional ways.

### *Working Cotton*

by Sherley Anne Williams  
(Grades 1–3)

This Caldecott Honor Book introduces us to a family of migrant cotton pickers and their work.

## Activities

- Plan a family reunion. Have a get-together for your household or your extended family. Help kids plan by asking them the following:
  - Where does our family like to get together?
  - When would everyone be able to come?
  - What are our favorite foods? What dishes can each person take?
  - What will we celebrate when we get together?
- Help your child make invitations for your special family reunion.
- Make an heirloom. Show your children some treasured articles that have been passed on to you from relatives. Create something together that you can enjoy now and then pass on someday, such as a tree ornament, decorated frame, or photo album.
- Help your child create a memory box. Decorate a shoebox together. Encourage your child to keep letters, pictures, and other keepsakes within it.
- Make a family tree. Start with your child and trace back as far as possible through your ancestors. Write each family member's name on the tree; if possible, include a photo. Talk about where your ancestors came from and help your child find each place on a map.

## Table Talk

Invite older relatives to share a meal with your family. Ask them to tell stories about when they were growing up

## Family Field Trip

Children are always curious to know what life was like for you growing up. Take a trip to a place from your youth such as your elementary school or your first home, or share a keepsake from your childhood.