

Saturday

A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: City, Family, Feelings, Love

Book Brief: A Black mother and daughter experience setbacks on their special day together, and figure out how to enjoy their day, even when their plans don't work out.

Author:
Oge Mora

Illustrator:
Oge Mora



TIME TO READ!



Before: Read the title of the book and look at the cover. Say, “This story is about a little girl named Ava and her mother doing activities on a special day. What day do you think it is? What makes you think that? What kinds of things do you think they will do?” Flip through some of the pages of the story to see some of their activities.

During: As you read about each of the activities Ava and her mother try to do in the book, pause and ask some questions, “What happened at the (library, salon, etc.)? How did Ava and her mother feel? What did they do to feel better? What did they say?”

After, ask questions:

- Do you think Ava and her mother had a fun Saturday? Why or why not?
- How do you think you would feel if those things happened to you?
- What did Ava and her mother do when they felt upset? What do you do when you feel upset?

INTENTIONAL TALK

Language Awareness means “talking like a book.” When children hear stories read aloud many times they often remember patterned language, both the words that are said and the tone and rhythm with which they are read. Children will often repeat favorite phrases or pages from memory. This is much more than memorization, it is a way for children to internalize the way stories should sound when they are read. Saturday contains a repeated phrase that is important to the story (“Today will be special. Today will be splendid. Today is Saturday!”) Encourage your child to say this phrase along with you, or even say it themselves as you read over and over again.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

DAYS OF THE WEEK SONG

At the beginning of the story Ava says each day of the week and that her mother works every day except Saturday. You can practice the days of the week with a song.

There Are Seven Days in a Week (To the tune of Oh My Darlin’ Clementine)

There are seven days,
There are seven days,
There are seven days in a week

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday

There are seven days,
There are seven days,
There are seven days in a week

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday

In the front inside and back page is an illustration of Ava and her mother’s calendar. You can look at the days on the top as you practice the song. Look on the calendar for things that you remember from the story!

You may also want to listen to the song online to hear the rhythm:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pbl4BNkAq_U

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ILLUSTRATED BY OGE MORA

- **Thank You, Omu! (2018)**
- **Everybody in the Red Brick Building (2021)**
- **I’m From (2023)**