



# A GRANDMA/GRANDPA LIKE YOURS

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*One book shares two rhyming, humorous stories of grandmas and grandpas, bubbes and zaydes, savtas and sabas – all of whom just happen to be adorable animals.*

## JEWISH CONCEPTS

Consider the number of joyful actions that take place in this book and how they exemplify the Jewish tenet of *l'dor vador* – the Hebrew phrase that means “from generation to generation” and refers to transmitting the essentials of Judaism from one generation to the next. Relationships between elders and children are special: their unique connections provide grandparents and other loving, older adults with opportunities for their knowledge, traditions, values, and stories to live on through children. This sharing is irreplaceable! The activities shown in this book are great examples of making and keeping connections in sweet and loving ways – regardless of whether the grandmothers are referred to as *bubbe*, *savta*, or *grandma* or the grandfathers as *zayde*, *saba*, or *grandpa*!

Respecting and caring for the elderly is a critical Jewish tenet as well. “*V’hadarta P’nei Zaken*” is the Biblical teaching to respect and honor our elders. In Israel, each public bus has a sign stating “*V’hadarta p’nei zaken*,” clearly instructing the young to give a seat to any older person who doesn’t have one. All children can learn by example and practice that every kind act is significant: even the smallest gesture from the youngest child can have real meaning for the person to whom it is offered.

## USING THIS BOOK AT HOME

*A Grandma/Grandpa Like Yours* reflects the joyful ways families can embrace life in a Jewish context. *Shabbat* can be about baking *challah* together; singing can be incorporated into *Hanukkah* celebrations; and *Yom HaAtzmaut* (Israel Independence Day) can be a time to dance! Celebrating Jewish life can and should include having fun!

This book refers to many holidays in the Jewish calendar. Space limitations prevent discussing each one here, but excellent information is available from the Internet: one great resource is [www.myjewishlearning.com](http://www.myjewishlearning.com).

Exploring *A Grandma/Grandpa Like Yours* provides a great opportunity for your children to think about how to say thank you to grandparents for the wonderful things they do. Grandparents always enjoy getting mail from grandchildren; young children can dictate words for the treat of a surprise card. And a quick phone call from a grandchild can mean the difference between a so-so day and an exceptional one for an older person. Any older person with whom your children have a special relationship can serve as the recipient of these loving deeds.