

# TEACHING GUIDE & LESSON PLANS

## The Nightlight



# TEACHER GUIDE

## OBJECTIVE

Help children understand the power of imagination in overcoming fears and facing challenges while emphasizing the importance of family support and bonding.

## INTRODUCTION

Begin by discussing feelings of fear. Ask the students if they have ever been scared of the dark or something else. Explain that the story is about a bear named Larry who learns to overcome his fear of the dark using his imagination.

## PRE-READING DISCUSSION

1. Show the book's cover and ask students what they think the story might be about based on the title and the cover illustration.
2. Discuss the word "patchwork." What do students think it means? Share examples of patchwork quilts or crafts to help them understand the term.

## DURING READING ACTIVITIES

1. Read the story aloud, engaging the students with expressive reading and encouraging them to look at the illustrations.
2. Pause at key moments to ask questions and encourage predictions.

For example:

- Why is Larry scared of the dark?
- What does Larry's grandpa do to make him feel safe?
- How does Larry use his imagination to conquer his fear?

# DISCUSSION TOPICS

## POST-READING

1. Discuss the theme of imagination. Ask students how Larry's imagination helps him overcome his fear.
2. Explore the concept of facing fears with support. Talk about how Larry's grandpa helps him feel safe and encourages him to confront his fear.
3. Discuss fireflies as natural nightlights and how they inspired Larry's solution to his fear.





# WORD SEARCH

FIND THE WORD IN THE PUZZLE

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

P S Z T G L A P Z H V G L G D  
L A R F J N E Z O P N H R B S  
R X T I H E I C S I K J R V E  
I G A C L V N T Y K I D V B I  
S N C S H P N A A C L A Y O L  
J I B A G W L U O E B J B O F  
A M N J M P O U A F R A I D E  
B M O L P P R R A U O L U H R  
E I U N U A I M K M U A T P I  
A W F H G L I N K S T T K U F  
R S W E F L S X G S D N P T R  
S K O X Y W J R A I O Z I P R  
F U E G B F H C A S O E P T M  
S O R H J A D K D T R J P H D

AFRAID

COURAGEOUS

FIREFLIES

OUTDOOR

SLEEP

BEARS

EATING

LOYAL

PATCHWORKS

STARS

CAMPING

FAMILY

NIGHTLIGHT

PLAYING

SWIMMING



# ART & CRAFT ACTIVITY

## CREATE FIREFLY NIGHTLIGHTS

1. Provide students with jars, construction paper, markers, and pipe cleaners.
2. Have students create their own firefly-inspired nightlights by decorating the jar with firefly shapes and attaching pipe cleaner antennae.
3. Use battery-operated tea lights to place inside the jars, simulating the glow of fireflies.
4. Discuss different sources of light found in nature, such as stars and fireflies, and their role in illuminating the dark.
5. Have a "Campfire Storytelling" session where students share their own creative stories using their imaginations.

