

Oma's Buttons

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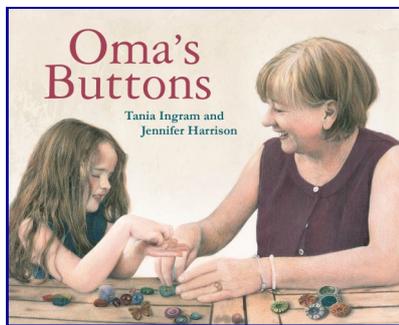
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Ruthie loves visiting her Oma. They always have lots of fun together.

One day Ruthie finds a pretty tin while playing hide and seek at her Oma's house.

It's full of Oma's beautiful 'memory buttons' - each one reminds Oma of a special person in her life and a story to share with Ruthie.

And of course Ruthie must have a memory button of her own!



Themes:

- Grandparents
- Relationships
- Memories & Special People
- Understanding
- Passing on Stories

Discussion Questions:

- Ruthie and her Oma had a special bond and liked to bake and play games together. Make a list of the things that you like to do with your Grandparents or another special relative or friend.
- How important is it to have this type of relationship with extended family members? Discuss what it brings to your life.
- 'Ruthie looked closely at the button. She didn't understand how a button could be a person.' As a class, discuss and expand on this concept.
- Can you recall what each special person in the story taught Oma?
- Do you like to keep any things that remind you of special people or special places that you have been? If so, share this with your class.
- Oma was able to tell Ruthie many stories and share memories because of each button. Do you like to hear your family share stories from their past?
- Do you think that it is important to keep memories alive? Discuss.
- How did Ruthie feel when she lost Oma's button? Do you think you would have felt the same way?
- Were you surprised at her Oma's reaction? How did she help Ruthie feel better?
- Why did Ruthie call her grandmother Oma?
- As a class, research the different names that are given to grandparents around the world. Create a poster showing all your findings.

Activities:

- Start your own 'memory' collection. It may be buttons, photos, or other special family mementos.
- Ask a grandparent or older family member to share some stories and memories from their past, including showing you some old photos that are important to them.