

Grandparents Day

Goals

- To honor and thank Grandparents
- To encourage gratitude and generosity
- To practice writing skills, and letter writing in particular



Overview:

Children complete gift coupons for grandparents or surrogates and create a matching envelope in which to enclose them. Extensions include a template for writing a letter to accompany the coupons.

Materials

- “Grandparents Coupons” printed 4-per-page and cut to form individual coupons
- “Grandparents Envelope”
- Optional: “Grandparents Letter”

Directions

1. Ask students how many have grandparents or “honorary grandparents”. Tell them there is a special day to thank their grandparents and honorary grandparents. Point to Grandparents Day on the calendar and, if you want, tell students how Grandparents Day came to be. (See <http://www.grandparents-day.com/> for background information.)
2. Ask students to think of something special they could do for their grandparents or grandparent surrogates. Suggest a variety of ideas – weed the garden, wash the car, rake leaves, give extra hugs, etc. Give each student one or more coupons to complete.
3. Give students copies of the “Grandparents Envelope”. Have them fold or cut the top corners, and then fold the bottom third of the envelope up and the top third down. Tape the sides of the envelope.
4. Show students how to fill in their return address and recipient’s address. Younger children can use names only. Have students put their coupons in the envelope to hand deliver or mail.

Stationery Studio Extensions

- Print copies of the “Grandparents Letter” and have students write a letter to enclose with their coupons. Or have students open the template at the computer and type their letters.
- Have students staple multiple coupons together as a booklet. Use the Grandparents Day border to design a front cover and back sheet for the book.
- Plan a Grandparents Day celebration and invite grandparents and honorary grandparents. Have a ceremony in which students present coupons.
- Have student write a poem, story or essay about something their grandparents did, a time they spent with their grandparents, or about why their grandparents are special.
- Choose other Stationery Studio borders to make a variety of gift coupons for other occasions. Keep the coupons on hand to encourage students to make gift giving a habit.
- Have students paste a photo or drawing of grandparents into their *Stationery Studio* file when making a coupon book or writing a story about grandparents. Use the Margins Tool to adjust the text area. Students can also paste or draw pictures on the print copy.