

Title: Surf Soup® and Grandpa's Handy Heart
Subtitle: A Father's Day and Grandparents' Celebration

ISBN paperback: 978-1-967065-59-2

ISBN hardback: 978-1-967065-60-8

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Grandpa's Inventive Heart
Extended Reader & STEAM Guide
Big Ideas

Invention • Curiosity • Problem solving • Learning through mistakes

Before Reading

Ask students:

- What does an inventor do?
- Have you ever fixed or built something?
- Why might mistakes help us learn?

Explain that inventors often experiment many times before something works.

After Reading Discussion

- What kinds of things did Grandpa build?
- Why didn't Grandpa just fix everything for Koa?
- What did Koa learn from trying things himself?
- How can mistakes lead to new inventions?

STEAM Activities

Science – Simple Machine Exploration

Introduce simple machines:

- lever
- ramp
- wheel

Students test how each helps move objects more easily.

Technology – Design an Invention

Students draw a simple invention that solves a problem.

Examples:

- a toy organizer
- a snack holder
- a book stand

Students label parts of their design.

Engineering – Prototype Challenge

Materials:

- cardboard
- tape
- recycled materials
- paper tubes

Students build a small prototype invention.

Discuss testing and improving designs.

Art – Inventor Blueprint

Students create a “blueprint drawing” of their invention using pencil and ruler lines.

Add labels and arrows like real engineers.

Math – Measuring Solutions

Students measure parts of their invention using rulers.

Example:

- length of ramp
- height of structure

Record measurements.

Reflection

Ask students:

- What problem did your invention solve?
- What would you change if you built it again?

Reader / Teacher Guide

Story Theme

This story celebrates love, creativity, family wisdom, and the playful spirit of learning together.

Grandpa’s inventions sometimes go wrong, but he never gives up. Through patience and humor, he teaches Koa that mistakes help us grow and family support helps us succeed.

The story reminds children that the most important invention of all is love.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Recognize ways families show love and support
- Understand that mistakes are part of learning
- Explore creativity and invention
- Practice gratitude toward parents and grandparents
- Build empathy and appreciation for family traditions

Discussion Questions

What kinds of things does Grandpa like to build?

What happens when Grandpa's inventions don't work?

How does Grandpa help Koa learn new things?

What makes Grandma's soup special?

What is something fun you like to do with a parent or grandparent?

Activity 1 - Draw Your Own Invention

Grandpa loves inventing!

Ask students to draw their own invention.

It could be:

- A toy
- A robot
- A helpful machine
- A fun gadget

Encourage students to explain what their invention does.

Activity 2 - Handy Heart Card

Students create a Handy Heart card for someone they love.

Steps:

Draw a big heart.

Inside the heart write or draw something kind about a parent or grandparent.

Decorate with stars, tools, or inventions.

Students can take the card home as a Father's Day or Grandparents Day gift.

Activity 3 - Ukjee Tree Memory

In the story, Koa and Grandpa carve their initials into a magical tree.

Ask students to imagine a memory tree.

Students can:

- Draw a tree
- Add symbols or initials
- Write a favorite family memory

Activity 4 – Family Adventure Plan

Have students imagine a day with a parent or grandparent.

They can plan to:

- Build something
- Cook together
- Play music
- Go on an adventure

Students draw or write about their day.

SEL Skills Practiced

- Gratitude
- Family appreciation
- Problem-solving
- Creativity
- Emotional connection
- Positive relationships

Extension Ideas for Teachers

- Invite students to interview a grandparent or parent about something they built or learned growing up.
- Have students create a class invention wall.
- Share family stories during circle time.

Short TPT Tagline

A heartwarming SEL picture book companion celebrating family love, creativity, and the magic of learning from grandparents.