

# My Summer With Grandad

## Synopsis

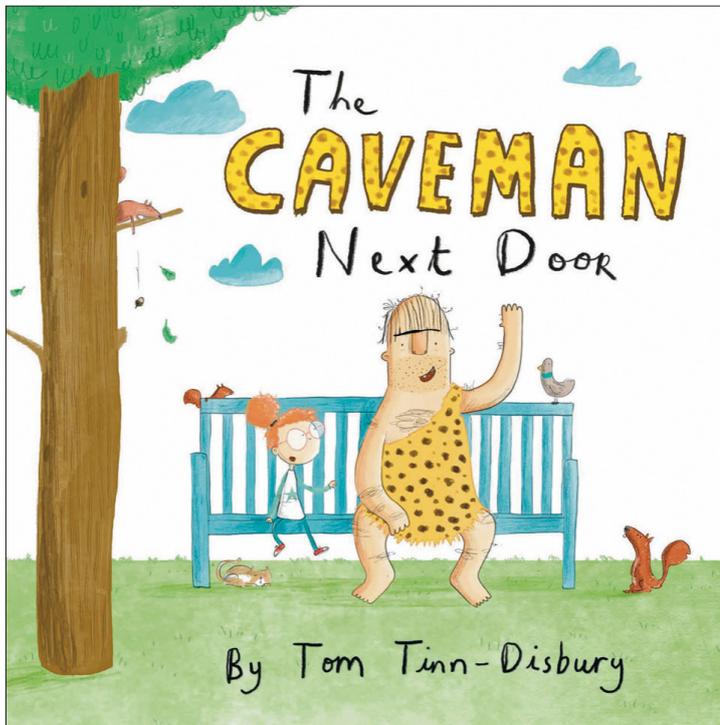
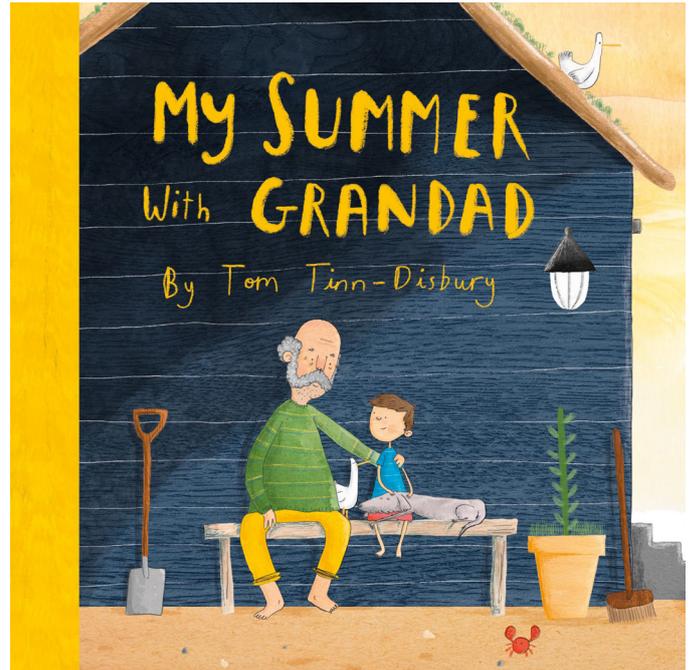
Eric loves spending summers with his grandad. This summer is even more special because grandad gives Eric a very important job on his old fishing boat. Chief Seagull Shoo-er! But when Eric and grandad rescue Beaky, a baby seagull, Eric isn't sure he wants to see his new friend fly away.

## About the Author and Illustrator

Tom is an illustrator based in Rugby, UK. He has illustrated books for Simon & Schuster, Sleeping Bear Press and Hachette. He has also provided illustrations for various magazine publications and advertising agencies. His debut picture book as both author and illustrator, *The Caveman Next Door*, was published in 2019.

## Educational Applicability

This heart-warming story depicts the special bond between children and their grandfathers, and is a great starting point for asking children to consider and articulate their own adventures with their grandparents. The book also teaches children that wild animals must be set free, although it imparts this lesson with a very light, humorous touch.



## Another book by Tom Tinn-Disbury:

*The Caveman Next Door*

Published by New Frontier Publishing

Shortlisted for the Read It Again! Picture

Book Awards

# Discussion Topics and Activities

## Discussion Topics

1. Show the children the front cover of the book and ask if they can read the title. What do you think the story is about?
2. What do you do when you go to visit your grandparents? Do your grandparents take you out fishing like Eric?
3. Eric wasn't very good at fishing the first time he tried it. How do you think he could get better at it? Would you worry if you weren't good at something the first time you tried it?
4. Do you see many seagulls where you live? If you were looking after a seagull, what would you name them?
5. Have you ever had to take care of an injured animal until they were healthy again (with the help of an adult of course!)? Can you explain what happened and what you did?
6. Even though Beaky and Eric became good friends, why do you think Beaky couldn't stay with Eric?
7. Read the last page of the book again. Do you think it is possible to communicate without speaking? Have you ever communicated with someone without speaking to them?

## Activities

### Drawing Activity

Draw one of your own adventures with your grandparents in the space provided.

### Send a Postcard to Your Grandad and Grandma

Since it might be a little difficult to visit your grandparents at the moment, you can make a postcard for them in this activity.

### Word Search

Can you find all five words hidden in the puzzle?

### Memory Game

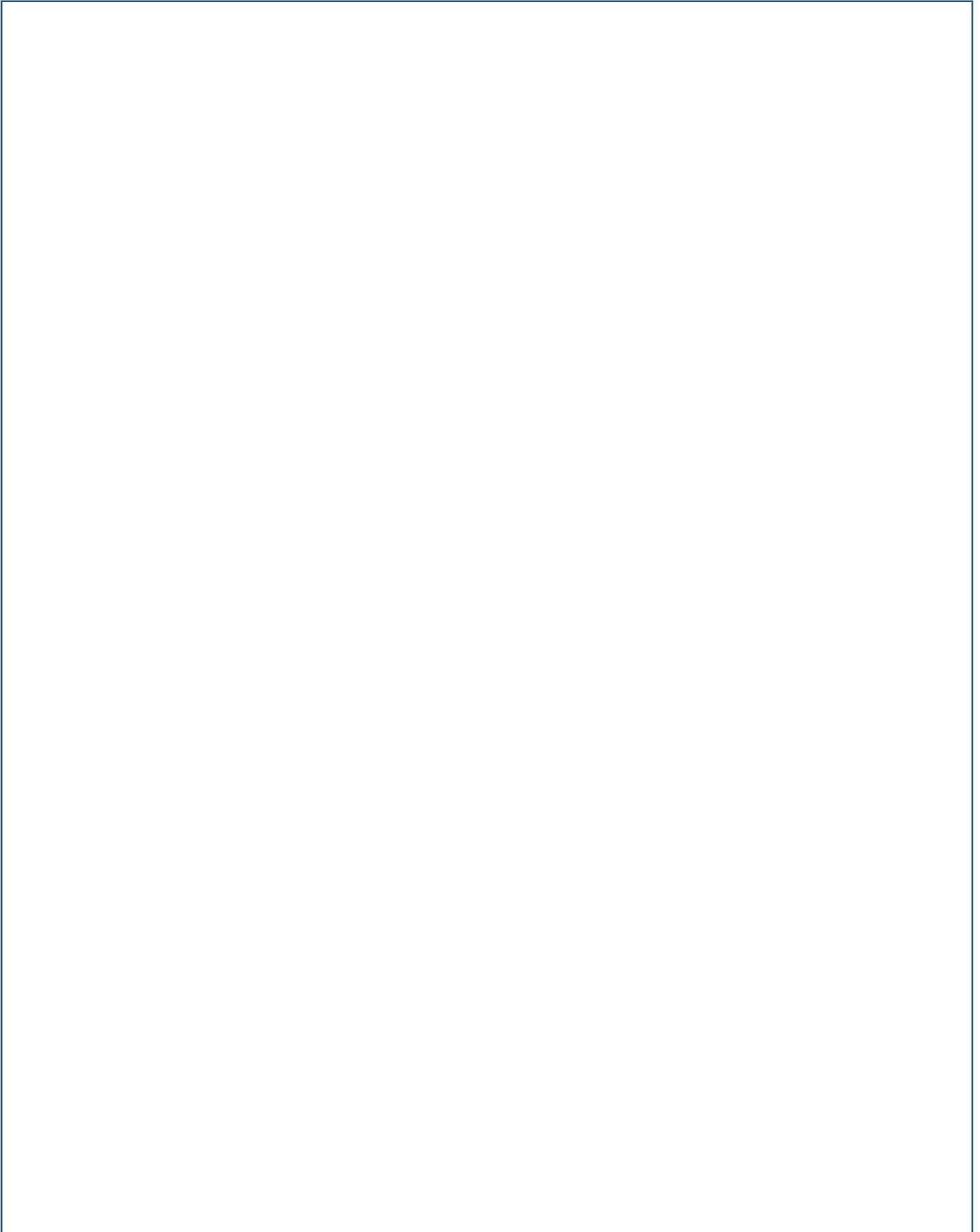
How well can you remember what happened in *My Summer with Grandad*? Play the Memory Game to find out!

### Maze Activity

Help Eric find his way back to Beaky!

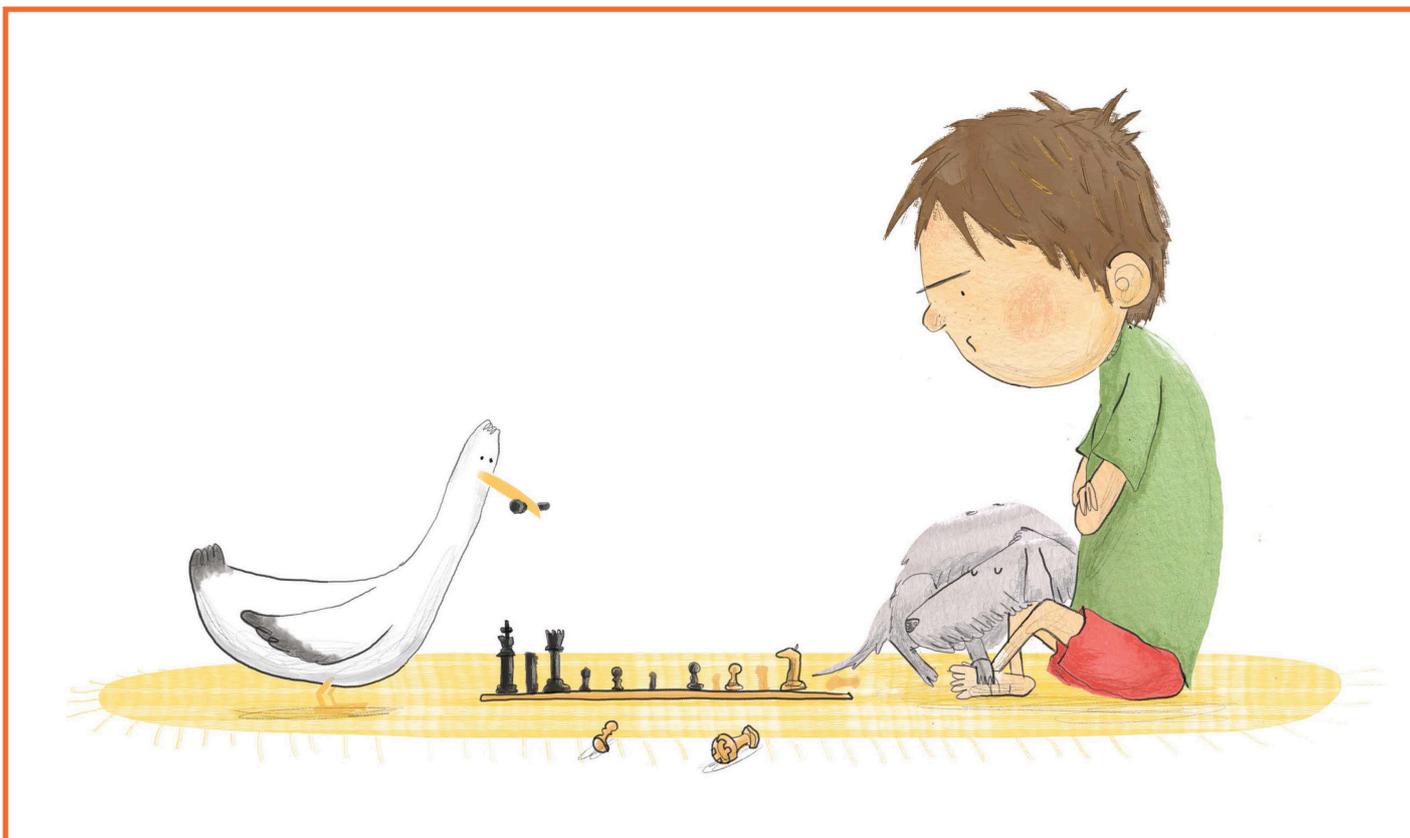
# Drawing Activity

Have you had a special day out with your grandparents? Or even spent a whole summer with them, like Eric? Draw your experience in the space below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the majority of the page below the text.

# Send a Postcard to Grandad and Grandma

It might be difficult to visit your grandparents at the moment, so why not make a postcard to say 'hi' and let them know what you are up to?



Print out the picture above and carefully cut it out to make the front of your postcard.

Your message:

Stamp

Address:

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You will need to design the back of the post card yourself, it should look like the picture above. You can practice writing your message to your grandparents in the space above, before you write the message on your postcard.

# My Summer With Grandad Word Search

Can you find the five words hidden in the puzzle? Look carefully for the words listed below.

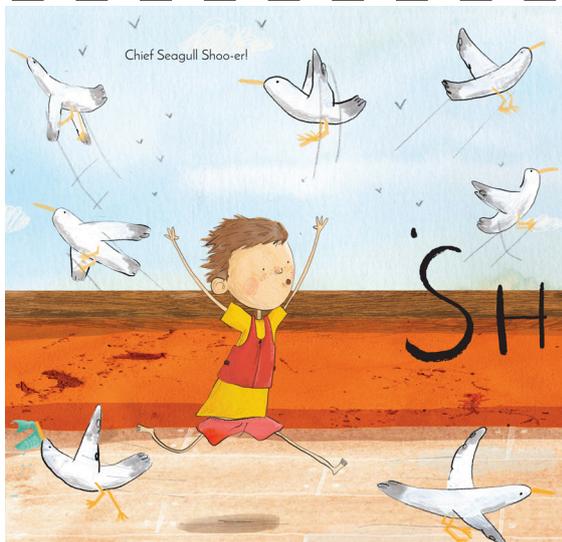
- Beaky
- Eric
- Grandad
- Summer
- Seaside

B	S	Y	G	Z	S	O
A	E	K	R	C	U	Q
K	A	A	A	I	M	G
J	S	E	N	R	M	K
Y	I	B	D	E	E	F
Y	D	R	A	H	R	V
M	E	C	D	D	F	U



# Memory Game

How well do you remember what happened in the story? Below are six pictures from *My Summer with Grandad* but they are jumbled up. Carefully cut them out (ask an adult to help you!) and arrange them in the correct order. Try to retell the story in your own words.



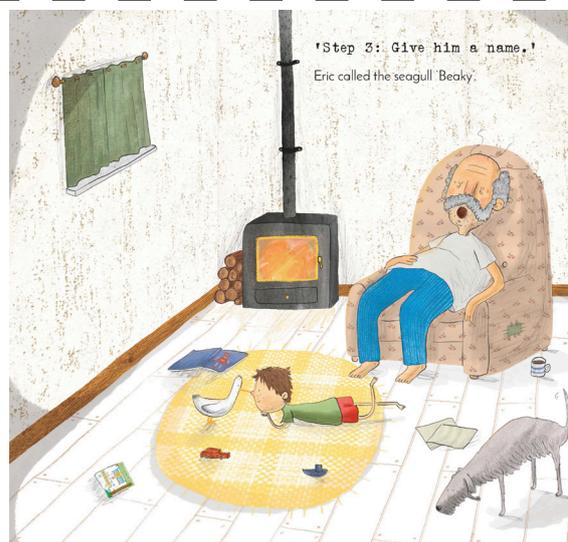
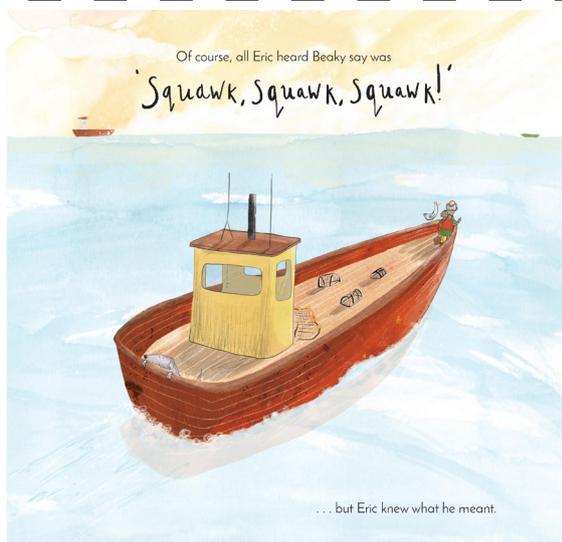
'Step 8: Once the seagull is better, he must rejoin his family.'



Although it was hard for Eric to say goodbye, deep down he knew it was for the best.



Eric carefully studied the steps for nursing an injured seagull. Kind of.



# Maze Activity

Eric was planning to meet his friend Beaky, but he's got a little lost! Can you help him find his way to Beaky?

