



# **Grandparents Day Activities**

### Interview

Invite grandchildren or great grandchildren to come and interview their grandparents and other residents. Residents could also interview their grandchildren. Create a book or display to compare and contrast their findings.

### Back to School

Make arrangements with a local school for residents to go "back to school." The students should be allowed to ask questions of their special visitors about what school was like back in their day.



#### Grand-friends

There are children in your community who may not have contact with grandparents. These children are missing out on a significant relationship in life. A great way for your residents to give back to the community would be to become "grandfriends." Your residents can serve as pen pals, offer advice and encouragement, and be there for special occasions.



Antiques Roadshow Borrow and display a variety of antiques. Allow residents to reminisce about the items and share their stories with invited guests.

### Teach a grandchild

Here is a fun list of 100 things to teach a grandchild from grandparents.com. 100 Things to teach a grandchild



### Bring Back Vaudeville

Do you have performers in your midst? Invite children in for a performance. Have someone read the children's book, *Song and Dance Man*, by Karen Ackerman, to your guests. Your residents can also teach the kids a routine that they can perform. There's plenty of room for creativity.

# Story Telling

Children love hearing stories, and we all know seniors have many stories to share. Younger children might like to hear about what it was like to be a kid in the 30s. Older grandchildren might like to hear stories about dating and marriage, the war, or jobs.



# Game Day

Put away the electronics and invite kids in for a game day. Teach them a classic game they don't know, such as checkers, jacks, marbles, hearts, or pick-up sticks.



## Cooking Lessons

Do some of your residents have favorite recipes to share? Invite guests for a live cooking demonstration or record the cooking instruction to share with future generations.

## My Favorite Things

Have residents create a small booklet that lists or shows pictures of grandparents' favorite things (songs, foods, colors, music, etc.) and also has empty spaces for grandkids to write in their own favorite things. Send to grandkids, or have residents telephone grandkids, to get the answers. Come back together to compare booklets.



#### Make a Blanket

Make no-sew fleece blankets. This can be done as a multigenerational project with grandparents and grandchildren working together. Blankets can be kept as a special memory or can be donated to a children's hospital or homeless shelter.

Fleece Blanket Instructions

# Discussing Grandkids

Share photos or other items that remind residents of their grandkids, or take turns telling stories about grandkids. Ask questions, like who has grandkids that are twins? Whose grandkids live farthest away? Who has the youngest? Oldest? Are any grandkids named after you? What activities do they enjoy? What do they call you and why?



# Aromatherapy Neck Pillows

Grandparents Day can also be a time for grandparents to treat themselves! Watch this video showing how to make aromatherapy neck pillows from socks. They can be warmed in the microwave and then used to soothe or invigorate.