

I'll Meet You in Your Dreams
Family Activities

1/ Read *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* and ask your child to point out examples of how the children in the story grow from the beginning of the book to the end. Tell a story about what your child was like as a baby/younger. Discuss first steps and other developmental milestones.

2/ In the beginning of the book, there is a picture of a mother holding her child close. Ask your child to think of other things people can do to take care of a baby.

3/ Discuss how living things, including humans, grow and change. Have your child think of other examples (birds learn to fly; seeds grow into trees; caterpillars become butterflies; etc.).

4/ Take some time to look at family pictures together. Ask if your child can remember when the photos were taken. Tell stories about the people and places in the pictures.

5/ Help your child fill in blanks:

When I was a baby/toddler/younger, my favorite food was _____.
Now I like _____.

My first word/a favorite word was _____.

I really liked to _____ when I was a baby/toddler/younger.
Now I like to _____.

When I was younger, some of my favorite books were _____.
Now my favorite books are _____.

When I was younger, my favorite toy was _____.
Now I like to play with _____.

6/ Have your child draw a memory — or draw it together. Discuss memories of certain places or times — a vacation, a family gathering or event, or a funny story. Ask your child to use the five senses to describe the memories.

7/ Ask your child to recall songs you used to sing. Sing them together, or read a book from when your child was younger.

8/ Help your child collect photos from different ages and create a timeline, labelling each photo (who, when, where, etc.) and adding details.

9/ Ask your child to find a part of *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* where one of the characters has to be far away from a loved one. Ask your child how the characters might feel. Discuss that while we all have times that we miss people we love, there are things we can do to keep in touch or to remember them. Ask your child what some of those things could be.

10/ Discuss nighttime dreams. How are they like stories? How are they like imagination? Ask your child to remember a nighttime dream and tell it as a story. Describe one of yours.

11/ Discuss how there are other kinds of "dreams" that are a mixture of imagination and hopes for the future. Tell your child an example of a dream you had for yourself when you were younger as well as a dream you have for your child's future. Discuss your child's dreams for the future. Have your child draw a picture of one and write (or have you write) something to describe it. Discuss ways to work towards that dream.