

Tea Cakes for Tosh

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

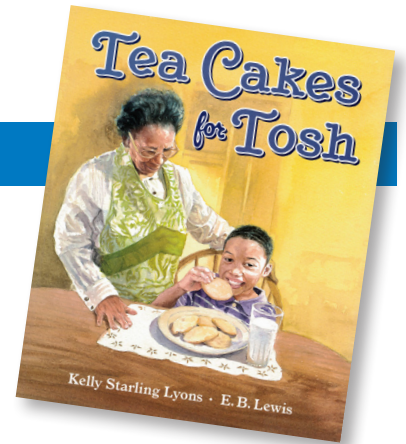
Themes: Compassion, Family History, Traditions, Memory Loss

Book Brief: This book is about a young boy who helps his aging grandmother remember their family history through stories and the tradition of making tea cakes.

Author: Kelly Starling Lyons

Illustrator: E. B. Lewis

Content Connections: Social Studies, Language Arts, Math



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Ask students what they notice about the two characters on the cover. Are the two related? What are they doing?

The Pictures: What changes in the pictures throughout

the book? How does the illustrator show you the difference between the present and past?

Prior Knowledge: Ask students to discuss a memory they have of a special person, time, or tradition. How did they learn about it? Tell students that the family story told in this book takes place on a plantation during the time of slavery, pre-1863.

Vocabulary: collards, enslaved, freedom, journey, memory, tradition

Purpose for Reading: Let's read to find out how the characters are related and what they do to help one another.

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ How would you describe Tosh and Grandma's relationship?
- ◆ How does Grandma change from the beginning of the story to the end?
- ◆ How does the setting of this story change?
- ◆ What does Tosh do to help Grandma remember her past?

- ◆ What is the underlying idea, or theme, in the story?
- ◆ Can you think of someone in your life who reminds you of Tosh or his grandmother?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: How were the main characters related? How did their relationship grow throughout the story?

Extending Our Thinking: Keeping family traditions going is very important to family history. Have students brainstorm ways to keep memories alive as people get older. Start a class time capsule of memories from the school year. Have the class decide on important memories or materials to keep in the class time capsule.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



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