

WHAT MAKES MY MUM HAPPY

- * Draw an outline of a crown for the children to cut out and decorate. Children can give crowns to their mums on Mother's Day. Similarly the children can make a card to give to mum for Mother's Day.
- * Discuss with children what makes their mum happy. List. Have the children make a small book where on each page they write and / or illustrate what makes their mum happy. Each child could present it to the class and then as a gift for their mum.
- * Mother's Day pampering morning at kindy/prep/school. Have the children make invites to send to Mum for a pampering morning and have similar activities to story. Have various tables set up: one for crown making, another for making bows, pasta necklaces, stars and flowers to decorate mum's outfit and bag. A dance area and music could be arranged so that children could each do a dance for their mum. Perhaps a cup of tea/coffee could be provided for the mums by staff.
- * Discuss and list with children all the things mums do. Have the children write a letter thanking mum for all the things she does. Address and post.
- * Children can dress up and or act out the story out while the teacher reads the book. Perhaps props could be made eg crown, decorations for outfit.
- * Discuss with children what the mums looked like in the story. Discuss what the children's own mothers look like. Have the children make a picture of their mum either by drawing, painting or using collage materials. Picture can be given as a gift for Mother's day.
- * List rhyming words in the story. Play a game in teams. First team to say the word that rhymes with eg. 'day' gets a point.
- * Make a list with the children of things that made the mums happy in the story. Was there anything that didn't make the mums happy? List also the things that make their own mum happy and unhappy. Have the children keep a journal for a week:

Things that make my mum happy. :) Things that make my mum unhappy. :(

- * Have the children write an acrostic poem for MOTHER or MUM.
- * Children could draw a picture of their mum. They could write things that make mum happy around her. Similarly they could do another one for things that make her unhappy.
- * Perhaps children could do a diamond poem for Mother/Mum where Line 1 is a noun. Line 2 has two adjectives related the noun. Line 3 has three verbs 'ing' related to the noun. Line 4 has two adjectives related to the noun. Line 5 has another noun for the line 1 noun.

Mother
Marvellous, magnificent
Caring, Loving, Giving.
Wonderful, Beautiful
Mum.

- * For upper primary children, perhaps they could write and illustrate a story using the same structure as *What Makes My Mum Happy*, but about different subjects, eg *What Makes My Pet Happy*, *What Makes My Teacher Happy*, *What Makes My Friend Happy* etc. The older children could then read their books to lower primary classes.
- * Discuss with children the mediums used by the illustrator to illustrate the story. Perhaps children could use the same mediums or similar to draw a picture of themselves with their mum.

-end-