



Wombat

SCHOLASTIC

Volunteering for grandfriends

On being a Grandfriend ...
 I stood in a queue in a bank one day,
 All those bills I had to pay
 Upon the wall a note did say—
 Grandfriends are needed right away.

The children met us at the gate,
 With coffee and biscuits, which we ate,
 This lovely welcome made us feel at ease,
 And got rid of all the shaky knees.

A few hours a week was all they sought,
 To help the children and teachers—I thought,
 But, since joining Grandfriends in this way,
 The rewards are greater than words could say.

So once a week I come to see,
 All my friends in Class 2D,
 We sit and read in the sun,
 It really is a lot of fun.

Who are those people who take on this task?
 A nicer group you'll never meet,
 To help the children is our aim,
 But Grandfriends are scarce and that's a shame.

So don't you think it is only fair,
 If you have some time to spare,
 To come and join this happy crowd,
 And make your school very proud!

The aim of the Grandfriends program is to bring children and older people together for positive interaction. Whether grandfriends work to assist teachers in the classrooms, budding athletes on the sporting field or help to beautify the school yards, they are volunteering their time in schools to help their communities.

For more information call your nearest volunteer information centre on 1300 654 643.

Grandfriends

- Hold a Grandfriends Day at your school. Ask students to invite their grandparents along for an art, reading or even cooking session.
- Ask your students to design posters advertising Grandfriends Day at your school.
- Make a class list of all the things students like best about their grandparents.
- Make a class list of the different names grandparents are called in other cultures.