



Rhyming Grandpa

Grandpa makes a rhyme about everything he sees and everywhere he goes. He makes everyone laugh: baby elephants, pet owls, and children all over the world. He never stays in one place and is always on the go. Read what he sings about in this book full of rhymes and laughter.



Room to Read[®]

Level 3

Rhyming Grandpa

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Rhyming Grandpa has such a long nose! His eyes are round... and thissss big.
He wears a shirt in all the colours of the rainbow.
And whenever he opens his mouth, rhymes flow out!
Hello, I'm Grandpa! and I have a song. I sing in rhyme, I sing all day long!



This is how Grandpa spends his day. First, he says a special hello to the morning.

Sleep ran away, I'm awake!

Returned from a hazy stir,

I dreamed of dreamy drawings

And of cats in yellow fur!



Rhyming Grandpa gets up early in the morning. He walks through the grass and talks to the blades.

Look how you grow, my little green loves,

From seed to grass to art,

Like me, when you find an open sky

You breathe to fill your thirsty heart.



How does Grandpa think up of all these rhymes? As soon as one ends, another begins:

They live together like you and me
Lovely doves who sing up in the trees,
While grasshoppers jump around below,
We're one big, crazy family!



After greeting nature, Rhyiming Grandpa puts on his jaunty hat.
Lollipops swing from its rim.
His friends soon begin to join him. Owl is always first: he loves to pick a
lollipop from Grandpa's wonderful hat.
Grandpa says:
Good morning, good morning
My little friend, to see you is a treat!
I also make a perfect friend:
For even my hat is sweet!



Do you know who else accompanies Rhyming Grandpa? Baby Elephant, as white as snow!
Then the friends start off. They visit several villages on their daily walks. All the villagers wait eagerly for Grandpa to pass by. They all love his walking rhyme:
I walk, I talk--
I say hello!
I talk, I walk!
Away I go!



Owl cries, "Hoot hoot! Tell me another, tell me another!"
Says Grandpa,
No matter what you think
We, the old, the strange, the wise
We've got magic up our sleeves
Can't you see it in our eyes?
Baby Elephant dances with the rhythm of Grandpa's rhyme.
"Oh, hooray!" she says. "It's time for an adventure!"



One adventure is on the sea! Rhyming Grandpa rides on whales, calling out his song:

Here my children, take them all

Ride waves with a lollipop,

Take a bite, fill up your mouths

Make sure it doesn't drop!



Another adventure is in the sky!

WHOOOSHH!

Grandpa is flying! He's holding onto Owl, but...

"Where did your wings come from, Sister Elephant?" a passing duck calls out.

Where do

you

think?



“Hee Hee Ho Ho!” the three friends laugh.
Grandpa says,

Those who laugh with open hearts,

Can do anything they try

A little trust, a little hope

And anyone can fly!



When school gets out, Grandpa is on the playground. Now the children laugh and sing a rhyme they made themselves:

"Welcome, Grandpa!

and your friends,

You know how old you seem...

We run, we kick, we try to score,

But the goals are all your team!"



On the way home from school, the children all huddle around Grandpa. He always has one last rhyme:



Children, you must understand,

You must one day come to see,

To hold your time with elders close

For Grandpa won't forever be.



One morning, when Grandpa awakes, he hears a cricket's music. The music helps Grandpa rhyme a new song:

Just past dawn, a cricket sings.

He sings my song of love,

In this world, we are all together

Whether here, below, or above.



Grandpa doesn't walk by the village that day. Children look for him everywhere, but Grandpa is nowhere to be found. "Where did Rhyming Grandpa go?" they ask. "Mother, can't you bring back Grandpa to us? How we miss his rhymes!"



"Perhaps," Mother says, "Rhyming Grandpa is far away now."
"Perhaps he has travelled to another country, on a grand adventure we
can imagine together."
Mother sings,
He plays new games and rhymes new rhymes
For children in other lands
Listen close, you'll hear them laugh,
With Grandpa, they're in good hands.



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Rhyming Grandpa (English)

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