



# Judy Moody and the Bucket List

Written by Megan McDonald, Illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

Inspired after finding Grandma Lou's bucket list, Judy comes up with her own bucket list of things she wants to accomplish before she starts the 4th grade.

## READ

**Before:** Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *what do you think this story is about?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder what will be on her bucket list?

**During:** Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words

- cursive - a type of handwriting in which all the letters in a word are connected to each other
- Northern Lights - large areas of green, red, blue or yellow light that sometimes appear in the night sky in far northern regions
- mangle - to injure or damage something by cutting, tearing or crushing
- Antarctica - continent of the South Pole
- tsunami - a very high, large wave in the ocean that is usually caused by an earthquake under the sea and that can cause great destruction when it reaches land

**After:** Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What does Judy Moody find in an inside pocket of Grandma Lou's purse?
- How does Grandma Lou describe a bucket list to Judy?
- Does Judy like lists? What does V.I.L. stand for?
- How did Grandma Lou decide what to put on her list?
- What does Judy decide to put on her "way-official not-yet, fourth-grade kick-the-bucket list"?
- What were some of Judy's inventions? What did her family think of them?
- Judy wanted to visit Antarctica. How did she try to earn money for the trip?
- Were there any items on Judy's bucket list that you would include on your bucket list?
- Grandma Lou had "Make a difference" on her list. It was important to her to help others. How did Grandma Lou make a difference? What did Judy think of her grandmother's desire to make a difference?



**DO**

## **Create your 2019 Bucket List**

Share this Bucket List with students and have them mark off when they complete one of the acts. Encourage students to include a few “make a difference” items on their list like Grandma Lou! Here are some examples: *learn to skate, sit out under the stars, offer to walk someone’s dog, write a letter, draw or paint a self-portrait, organize a scavenger hunt, start a collection of rocks or shells, learn to knit or crochet or whittle from an older relative or neighbor, learn sign language*



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