

Family Activities

Title: Uncle Jed's Barbershop Author: Margaree King Mitchell Illustrator: James Ransome

Sara Jean's Uncle Jed, the only black barber in the county, overcomes many setbacks, including the Great Depression of the 1930s, as he works to save enough money to open his own barbershop. LeVar finds out about making dreams come true with determination and faith, as he talks with The Persuasions, an a cappella quartet. These friends pursued their dream in spite of being told that a singing group without musical instruments didn't have a chance for success.

Here are several activities you and your child can do together after watching this episode.

Family Reunion

Get out that old shoebox full of family photos. It's time for the family to make a scrapbook about your relatives! Include names of members of your family, following the alphabet, from A to Z. Do you have an Aunt Ann, a brother named Bill or Bob, a cousin named Colette or Carl? Once you get going, you won't be able to stop until you reach Z! Label each page with the letter and write a sentence about the relative. Add a photo or draw a picture.

Big Dreams

What does everyone in your family dream of doing or becoming one day? Everyone has a dream they hope will come true. Put that dream down on paper! Cut a thought-balloon shape from paper for each member of the family. Inside the shape, each one can draw or write what they dream about doing one day. Share your dreams with one another, and they just might come true!

Puppet Show

Materials you will need:

- glove
- felt
- wiggly eyes
- yarn
- glue
- scissors

Directions:

1. Cut out five felt circles about 1 inch in diameter.

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- 2. Glue on wiggly eyes, yarn, and felt pieces to create facial features and hair.
- 3. Glue one face on each finger of the glove.
- 4. Have a puppet show!

Options:

- Create a puppet glove showing characters from your favorite fairy tale or rhyme.
- Instead of gluing the faces to the glove fingers, attach them with Velcro so you can add and remove them.
- Cut the fingers off the glove to make individual finger puppets.

Visit Your Community Library

Here is a book you can check out on your next trip to the library:

Alvin Ailey by Andrea Davis Pinkney