

Reading Roundup

Ganny Says

Written and Illustrated by
Chris Helene Bridge

Reading Roundup
Partners



Introduction

Gather the students around you so that they are able to see the illustrations of the book. Most classrooms will have an area rug defining this space. Introduce yourself and tell the students that you are excited to share *Ganny Says*, written and illustrated by Chris Helene Bridge.

Before Reading

This beautiful book uses rhyming words to help us get to know an amazing woman. Her name is Mrs. Barbara Bush. She was married to George Bush, the 41st president of the United States. Her grandchildren called her Ganny. They learned from her wise words to become better people. Mrs. Bush devoted her life to her faith, her family, her friends, and literacy – reading, writing, and comprehending. Let's read to find out what we can learn from Mrs. Bush.

During Reading

- Begin reading the book by starting on the title page. Hold the book so that students are able to see the illustrations. Give plenty of time for students to “read” and think about the pictures. Continue to read through page 13.

- **Page 13** *Ganny said to not be sad about things we don't have. Enjoy what we have and make others laugh. Look at Ganny's shoes in the illustration. -P- What funny thing did she do to make others laugh? (Wore shoes that were two different colors.) -T/T- When you've felt angry or sad, have you ever decided to laugh about it? If so, how did it feel? Is this something you can try to do more often? (Answers will vary.)*

- **Page 16** *Ganny believed in doing what she loved to make a difference. Look closely at the illustration. -P- What are some of the things she loved to do? (Mrs. Bush helped others by writing notes to thank them or to help them feel better. She loved giving books to people who didn't have any of their own. She also loved working in her flower garden and sharing her flowers with others.) Give yourself a moment to think about something you love to do. -T/T- Turn and talk about how can you use doing what you love to help others? (Answers will vary, but children should recognize they can share what they make, teach what they know, or help someone while doing what they love.)*

- **Page 20** *Ganny understood that everyone is special and needs kindness and love. Take a moment to think of someone you know who needs help. Think about who may be sad, lonely, or frightened. -T/T- What are some things we can do for others who need help? (We can invite others to join our game. We can say kind words or make them laugh.)*

- **Page 24** *Ganny didn't worry so much about doing really big things. She said the things that really make a difference are the little things like holding someone's hand or saying kind words. -P- What are some simple things each of us can do to help others feel better? (We can stay with someone who is frightened or lonely. We can choose them as a partner or invite them to a party....)*

After Reading

Let's stop and think about the things Mrs. Bush taught her family. -P- Let's name some of the things she told her family to do. (Be kind and say nice words. Take care of your things. Do what you love and help others. Laugh at yourself and help others laugh. Be thankful for what we have. Stay close to people who need help....)

Think about one person you know who needs your help. Think of one thing you can do today to help that person. Close your eyes and imagine yourself helping that person. Where are you? What are you doing? What are you saying? How are you feeling? How is the other person feeling? Children will not answer out loud.

Remember- Every person needs to feel loved and needs to be treated with kindness. We can all do our part by helping someone feel better.

Vocabulary

Wise – someone who has learned a lot p.6

Refuse – say no to something p.16

Soar – fly p.18

Pause – stop p.22

**WORD
WAGON**

