

# Tea Cakes for Tosh

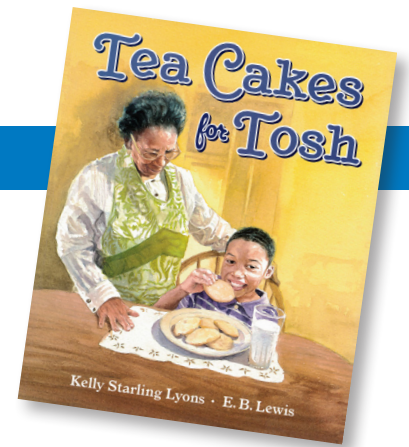
## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**Themes:** Compassion, Family History, Traditions, Memory Loss

**Book Brief:** This book is about a young boy who helps his aging grandmother remember their family history through stories and the tradition of making tea cakes.

**Author:**  
Kelly Starling Lyons

**Illustrator:**  
E. B. Lewis



## TIME TO READ!



**Before reading, build background:** Ask your child what they know about your family's traditions. How do they learn about these traditions? What is their favorite family recipe?

**While reading, make inferences:** Use pictures to notice the many things that Tosh helps his grandmother remember. Use pictures and information to

understand how the setting changes in the story from present to past.

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ How does Grandma change from the beginning of the story to the end?
- ◆ What does Tosh do to help Grandma remember her past?
- ◆ How would you describe Tosh and Grandma's relationship?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### TEA CAKES FOR YOU AND ME

Ingredients: 1 c. softened butter, 1 1/2 c. sugar, 3 eggs, 1 tbsp. vanilla extract, 3 c. flour, 1 tbsp. baking powder, 1/4 tsp. salt

Cream butter and sugar in a large bowl. Add eggs one at a time; beat well. Add vanilla. Combine flour, baking powder, and salt. Add flour to creamed mixture, a little at a time. Drop by teaspoons onto greased baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 7-8 minutes. Remove to wire rack to cool. Enjoy and make memories!

### FAMILY MEMORIES SCAVENGER HUNT

Go on a scavenger hunt with your child. In a closet or basement, look for long-lost items and pictures from memorable moments in your family's life. Collect the

items and spend family time discussing the pictures and objects you find, sharing the memories they hold!

### FAMILY TREE MAP

Materials: construction paper, markers, crayons

Design your own family tree by working together to learn about your family members. Trace your family names as far back you can. On the family tree map, include names, dates, and places where family members were born. Look through old pictures of family and ask older relatives for help.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

*Ellen's Broom* (2012)

*Hope's Gift* (2012)

*One Million Men and Me* (2007)



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