Camp Granny: A Grandma's Bag Of Tricks
"For green grandparents everywhere and the young lives they touch." —RICHARD LOUV, AUTHOR OF LAST CHILD IN THE WOODS

Make leaf rubbings, blow jumbo bubbles, bake Moon Pizzas, create a firefly lantern. More than an activity book, CAMP GRANNY is an interactivity book, filled with 130 projects that connect grandparents and grandchildren through nature. In the kitchen, the garden, and the art room. Illustrated with evocative photographs and the author's watercolors, CAMP GRANNY is a book about being adventurous, about being curious, about noticing and really seeing things about instilling a lifelong sense of wonder. Please note: CAMP GRANNY was previously sold under the title Toad Cottages & Shooting Stars.

Book Information

File Size: 46047 KB
Print Length: 272 pages
Publisher: Workman Publishing Company (September 22, 2015)
Publication Date: September 22, 2015
Sold by: Digital Services LLC
Language: English
ASIN: B00ESCSK6C
Text-to-Speech: Enabled
X-Ray: Not Enabled
Word Wise: Enabled
Lending: Not Enabled
Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled


Customer Reviews

If you’re a grandma or a mom (or even a nature-loving, kid-daffy grandpa or dad), you’re going to be delighted by Sharon Lovejoy’s latest book, Toad Cottages & Shooting Stars. It is the ultimate Granny Handbook, designed especially for those of us who are lucky enough to have at least one small child to introduce to life in the kitchen, the backyard, and the garden. Sharon Lovejoy has
always helped us to work with our kids in the garden, from her delightful Roots, Shoots, Buckets &
Boots to Sunflower Houses; Hollyhock Days; and A Blessing of Toads. But Toad Cottages &
Shooting Stars is special, because it is designed as a "manual" for grandmas, and Lovejoy has
crammed it full of playful activities that even grannies without green thumbs can manage and kids
will absolutely love. To whet your appetite, here is a short sampling from the six chapters: Faerie
Mailboxes, Firefly Lanterns, No-Bake Nests, Be a Pumpkin Parent, Potato Volcanoes, and Worm
Hotel. Want more? How about these chapter titles? Preparing Camp Granny (lots of fine ideas, even
if you’re a long-distance granny). Or The Neighborhood Naturalist, Kids in the Kitchen, the Kitchen
Garbage Garden (starts with an activity called "Learning from Leftovers"), Kids in the Garden, and
Rainy Day Activities. Each chapter offers recipes (Moon Pizzas, anybody?), games, and
activities—each one a learning opportunity for both granny and grandkid. And best of all, the book
overflows with color photographs and Lovejoy’s delightful drawings of bugs, plants, food toys, and
faeries. Every page is a treasure.

Sharon Lovejoy is my ideal grandmother. She spends time browsing craft stores and home centers
for child-friendly materials. She readies her house for her grandchildren’s visits by setting up "camp
granny" - stocking rooms with dress-up clothes, children’s books, and child-friendly activities. She
maintains an active and creative line of communication with long-distance grandkids. And she
relishes nature walks and garden experiments with little ones. If only more grandparents were like
her... My own mother isn’t and if yours is more couch-potato than amateur naturalist then this book
won’t change that. I’m giving my mom this book because I found it second-hand, asked her if she
wanted it, and she replied casually "yes" without questioning what exactly what it was. I’m pretty
sure that after I give it to her and she has had time to look it over in the privacy of her own home (if
she even gets that far) she'll say "well, I’m not doing any of these activities because they’re too
much work" and proceed to use the TV as a babysitter if I leave my children in her care. Who should
buy this book: Grandmothers or grandfathers (these activities really aren’t gender-specific) looking
for ways to enjoy time with their grandkids over the age of 5 (a 2-year-old who has to be watched
like a hawk so she won’t slice her hand open with pinking shears is a totally different animal than a
7-year-old who knows not to eat toadstools) in the garden and in the kitchen. It also helps if the
grandparent in question is in good health, is free of mobility issues, and has a sizable garden
(though many of the plant activities can be done indoors). Who should NOT buy this book: People
hoping to transform lazy, unimaginative, or infirm grandparents into elderly Mary Poppins.

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Thanksgiving Leftover Recipes: 13 Delicious After-Holiday Meals (Grandma Baker’s Recipes)
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