

5) Doing Things Pip's Way by Emily Arnold McCully

Pip went outside to swing high, on the swing.

Grandma Nan wanted to do things one way, and Grandma Sal wanted to do things another way.

Pip wanted to do things the way Mom and Dad and Pip always did them.

The grandmas were talking by the window.

"A child needs rules, Sal," said Grandma Nan.

"A child needs fun, Nan," said Grandma Sal.

"My rule is bed at 8 o'clock," said Grandma Nan.

"Oh, loosen up," said Grandma Sal.

"A body gets the sleep it needs."

"STOP!" cried Pip.

"I do not want to do everything two ways.

I want to do them our way, like every day when Mom and Dad are home."

"How is that, dear?" asked Grandma Nan.

"I clean my room once a week. I make my own lunch every day. I don't take a nap unless I want to, and I never have candy in the morning except at Christmas. No TV on nice days, and I can get dirty when I play. And I don't eat vegetables all mixed up with meat."

"What do you think, Sal?" asked Grandma Nan.

"The child has a point," said Grandma Sal.

"Pip, we will try to do things your way," said Grandma Nan.

"How do we begin?"

"It is almost my bedtime," said Pip.

"But first I put on my pajamas, and then I brush my teeth and pet kitty and wash my face. Then I look out for stars and eat a cookie and run my trucks, and then I bounce on my bed if I feel like it. Then you can read me a story."

Pip got ready for bed.

The grandmas waited.

Finally Pip crawled under the covers.

Then Grandma Nan read the first page, and Grandma Sal read the next page of Pip's bedtime book.

They took turns to the very end.