

BLUEY EPISODE GUIDE

Grandad

DGO #4 · Grade 2 · Age 7+

Episode Name	Grandad
Season & Episode	Season 2, Episode 27
Age Group	DGO #4 - Grade 2 (Age 7+)
Key Concept	Self-pity says 'it's not fair' — resilience says 'I'm still here, and look at what's in front of me'

ABOUT THIS EPISODE

Chilli drives Bluey and Bingo to visit her father Mort, who's recovering from surgery and should be resting. They arrive to find him chopping stumps. He grabs the girls and runs through the bush, hiding from Chilli — until she tells his friend Maynard why she needs him to rest. "I still need him," she says. And Mort, nearby, overhears.

He doesn't rest because he's told to. He rests because he understands that taking care of himself is how he takes care of the people who love him. The final scene — Mort on the pier while the girls swim, Chilli leaning on his shoulder, his quiet observation that it all feels like yesterday — is one of the most graceful endings in the series.

WHY IT MATTERS (FOR PARENTS)

This episode models resilience in a form children rarely see: an older person choosing vitality and presence over self-pity, despite real physical limitation. Mort isn't pretending to be invincible. He's a man recovering from surgery who still wants to chop wood and wrestle grandchildren. He could collapse into the unfairness of ageing. He doesn't.

What makes the episode extraordinary is Chilli's vulnerability. Your child almost always sees Chilli as the composed, capable mother. Here she's the child again, needing her father. That shift is important for a seven-year-old to witness: adults need people too. And Mort's response — adjusting his behaviour because he understands what's at stake, not because he was ordered to — is a portrait of resilience that has nothing to do with toughness. It has everything to do with love and clarity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (FOR YOUR CHILD)

1

Grandad just had surgery but he was running around and chopping wood. Why do you think he was doing that instead of resting?

2

Mum told Maynard she still needs her dad. How do you think Grandad felt when he heard that?

3

Grandad could have been really sad about being sick and getting older. Instead, he sat on the pier and watched the girls swim. What do you think was going through his mind?

4

At the end, Grandad said watching young Chilli swim there feels like yesterday. Why do you think that memory matters so much to him?

5

Who in your life shows you what being strong looks like — not by being tough, but by how they handle hard things?

AFTER THE EPISODE — ACTIVITIES & EXTENSIONS

Try one of these to keep the learning going:

- Ask question five and give your child time. The person they name, and what they point to as the behaviour they respect, tells you a great deal. Ask: what specifically have you seen them do? What was hard about what they were dealing with?
- Talk about the pier scene together. Ask: what do you think Grandad is thinking while the girls swim? Help your child hold two things at once — the bittersweetness of time passing, and the full presence of joy in what's right there. That's a sophisticated emotional place to stand. This episode makes it possible to visit.
- Ask question two and sit with the answer. Mort overhears Chilli say she still needs him. Ask your child: is there something someone has said about needing you that changed how you behaved? Have you ever said something like that to someone else?
- Talk about the difference between Mort at the start of the episode and Mort at the end. He chooses to rest — but it's not resignation. It's care. Ask: can you think of a time someone looked after themselves because they knew it mattered to the people who love them?

Tip for parents: Chilli's 'I still need him' is one of the most human moments in the whole series. It's easy to watch as a parent and feel the weight of it — the awareness that your own children watch you and need you in ways that will outlast your certainty that everything is fine. If you feel something watching this episode, say so. Let your child see you carry it. That's the resilience this episode is really about.