

Parent Resource Guide

Jayylen's Christmas Wish



Developed by
Lavette Books

Parent Resource Guide

Dear Parent,

Jayylen's Christmas Wish is divided into thematic sections.

Each section has questions and/or activities specifically focused on that section.

Section 1	Book Cover : Author and Illustrator	p. 1
Section 2	Secret Santa	pp. 2-5
Section 3	The Disappointment	pp. 6-11
Section 4	Cousin's Advice : Jayylen Raises Money	pp. 12-17
Section 5	The Plan	pp. 18-21
Section 6	Family Arrival	pp. 22-23
Section 7	Jayylen's Christmas Wish	p. 24

Resources: A graphic organizer is included in Appendix 1.

Extension Activities can be found in Appendix 2. (Activities that can be used with children after reading, Jayylen's Christmas Wish.)

Benefits of an Interactive Read Aloud:

- Opportunities to ask and answer questions.
- Creates a time of reading together enjoyable.
- Allows children to listen to higher level text.
- Increases vocabulary.
- Encourages imagination, visualization and creativity.
- Demonstrates how to motivate children to enjoy reading.
- Deepens comprehension through discussion and active thinking.

Interactive Read Aloud

Start the read aloud by explicitly sharing the purpose with children. Here are two examples:

"We are going to learn new words from our story. This will be helpful as you learn to read and write more."

"We are going to learn about a little boy in the story, named Jayylen. Listen carefully as we find out what he likes and how he helps his family."

Often during a read aloud, a comprehension question is asked to give children a purpose for listening to text.

Benefits to a comprehension question:

- Give children a purpose for reading.
- Focus children's attention on what they are to learn.
- Help children to think actively as they read.
- Encourage children to monitor their comprehension.
- Help children to review content and relate what they have learned to what they already know.

Directions:

This resource book gives directions for reading the story two times.

Attention

Say - "Today I am going to read aloud the book, Jayylen's Christmas Wish. I am going to read this book for your enjoyment. As I read the book, I will stop and ask questions. Then the second time we will talk more about the book as we continue to have fun learning about Jayylen's Christmas Wish."

Say – I will read the story – Jayylen’s Christmas Wish by Lavaille Lavette, illustrated by David Wilkerson. Today, I want you to listen carefully and enjoy Jayylen’s Christmas Wish.

As you hold the book cover, ask the following questions at the start of the read aloud to give a purpose for listening:

Say - “What do you think is Jayylen’s Christmas Wish?”

Have you ever had a Christmas wish?

Discuss responses. Read the text. At the end of the story, revisit the question – What was Jayylen’s Christmas wish?

Second Read Aloud

Directions:

Ask the following questions at the start of the read aloud to give a purpose for listening:

Say - “What was your favorite part of the book?” Which character would you want to be your friend? Did the story end the way you expected?

Discuss responses. Read the book.

The following sections include questions and activities that can be used.

Section 1 - Book Cover : Author and Illustrator Page

Say – Have you ever had a Christmas wish to come true?

Who is the author? What does the author do? Who is the illustrator and what is his/her purpose?

Start the discussion of the book using a “Picture Walk”. Show each picture of the book, without reading the story. Share thoughts using questions and statements below. Accept open responses.

Say – By looking at these pages what time of year is the story? What is the setting of the story? What can you tell about Jayylen by looking at his face expression? pp. 2-3

Say – Looking at Jayylen’s sister, what can you tell about her thinking? p.4

Say – By looking at this picture, what do you think is going on with Jayylen and his mom? p.8

Say – What kind of emotions do you see in these pictures? pp. 9-11

Say – After Jayylen talked to his cousin, how do you think he feels? p. 13

Say – We can see Jayylen doing a lot of work on these pages. Name some of his jobs. pp. 14-15

Say – Looks like Jayylen earned a lot of money. However, his sister’s face looks worried. pp. 16-17

Say – Now Jayylen looks sad. Do you remember why? How does his sister help? pp. 18-19

Say – Who are these new characters in the story? What does Jayylen tell them? pp. 20-21

Say – What do you think they are saying at the dinner table? pp. 22-23

Say – Jayylen and Manuel seem to be happy. Looking at the picture of Jayylen and Manuel, describe what you think they are thinking. p. 24

Section 2 – Secret Santa

Say – What do you think is a “Secret Santa” gift? p. 3

Possible Response: “Secret Santa” means you are giving a gift secretly to someone for Christmas and you reveal yourself later or on Christmas.



Section 3 – The Disappointment

Say – If you were Jayylen, what comforting words would you give your mother? p. 8



Possible Response: Open responses.

Section 4 - Cousin's Advice : Jayylen Raises Money

Say – What does Lamson mean when he says, “What if you can bring home to him?” p.12

Looking at the picture, what other ways can Jayylen raise money? pp. 14



Possible Response p. 12: Lamson's solution to Jayylen's problem was to “bring home” to Manuel by sending his gift and some Christmas cookies to Manuel.

Possible Response pp. 14-15: Open responses.

Section 5 – The Plan

Say – What do you think changed Hazel's mind to help Jayylen raise the money for the airline tickets? pp. 18-19

What do you think Paw Paw Jimmy and Grandma Louvanna are thinking? pp. 20-21

What does Paw Paw Jimmy mean when he says, “I want to see those northern lights Manuel keeps telling me about.” p. 21

(Northern Lights is a spectacular, natural event of green purple and red lights that dance across the night sky and occurs in high latitude of both hemispheres.)



Possible Response pp.18-19: Jayylen has tears in his eyes and can't speak after finding out he didn't raise enough money. So, Hazel decided to help by giving the money from her paychecks to raise enough money for the entire family to go to Alaska.

Possible Response p.20-21: Paw Paw Jimmy and Grandma Louvanna seemed to like the idea to go to Alaska. They encouraged Jayylen to send the family to Alaska. They were very excited about the plan and wanted to tell Jayylen's parents.

Possible Response (Teacher) p.21: Northern Lights is a spectacular, natural event of green purple and red lights that dance across the night sky and occurs in high latitude of both hemispheres. (Share pictures if available)

Section 6 - Family Arrival

Say – Let’s compare our Christmas’s meal to Jayylen’s Christmas meal using the graphic below. p.23



Compare and Contrast the Christmas Meal	
Jayylen’s Christmas Dinner	Our Christmas Dinner

Say – Let’s discuss how the food is alike and different.

Possible Responses: Open responses.

Section 7 – Jayylen’s Christmas Wish

Say – Have you ever had a wish to come true? What happened? p. 24

Possible Responses: Open responses.



APPENDIX 1

Jayylen's Family Christmas Meal

Christmas Dinner	Check if you have eaten this food item	List the food items at your family's Christmas meal
gumbo		
dressing		
mac and cheese		
potato salad		
peas		
fried turkey		
sweet potato pie		
gelatin rainbow treats		

APPENDIX 2

(Extensions)

BRAIN TRIVIA – Test Your Knowledge

Read each trivia question. Allow the child/children to respond. Celebrate all correct responses with a high five or a celebration dance.

1. Who is the author of Jayylen's Christmas Wish?
(Lavaille Lavette)
2. Where was Jayylen's brother, Manuel?
(Alaska, army, on-base)
3. What does shrugged mean?
(one's shoulder raised slightly to express doubt)
4. What was meant by Secret Santa?
(one person gives a secret gift to someone)
5. What was Jayylen's cousin's name?
(Lamson)
6. How did Jayylen raise money for the tickets to see Manuel?
(Odd jobs -. He helped neighbors put up Christmas decorations. He carried groceries. He walked dogs. He helped set up emails for Paw Paw Jimmy's friends. He sold modeled trains.)

Do You Know

1. Do you know Jayylen's mother's name? _____
2. Do you know Jayylen's father's name? _____
3. Do you know who said, "Bring home to him?" _____
4. Do you know who said, "Your idea made my Christmas wish come true." ? _____
5. Do you know who said, "Let's go tell your parents the plan" ? _____
6. Do you know Jayylen's sister's name? _____
7. Do you know Jayylen's grandfather's name? _____
8. Do you know who received a new driver's license? _____
9. Do you know who else attended the Christmas celebration besides the family? _____

Answers: 1. Helen 2. Tyrone 3. Lamson 4. Manuel 5. Grandma Louvanna 6. Hazel
7. Paw Paw Jimmy 8. Hazel 9. Soldiers

Retell the Story – Orally or Written

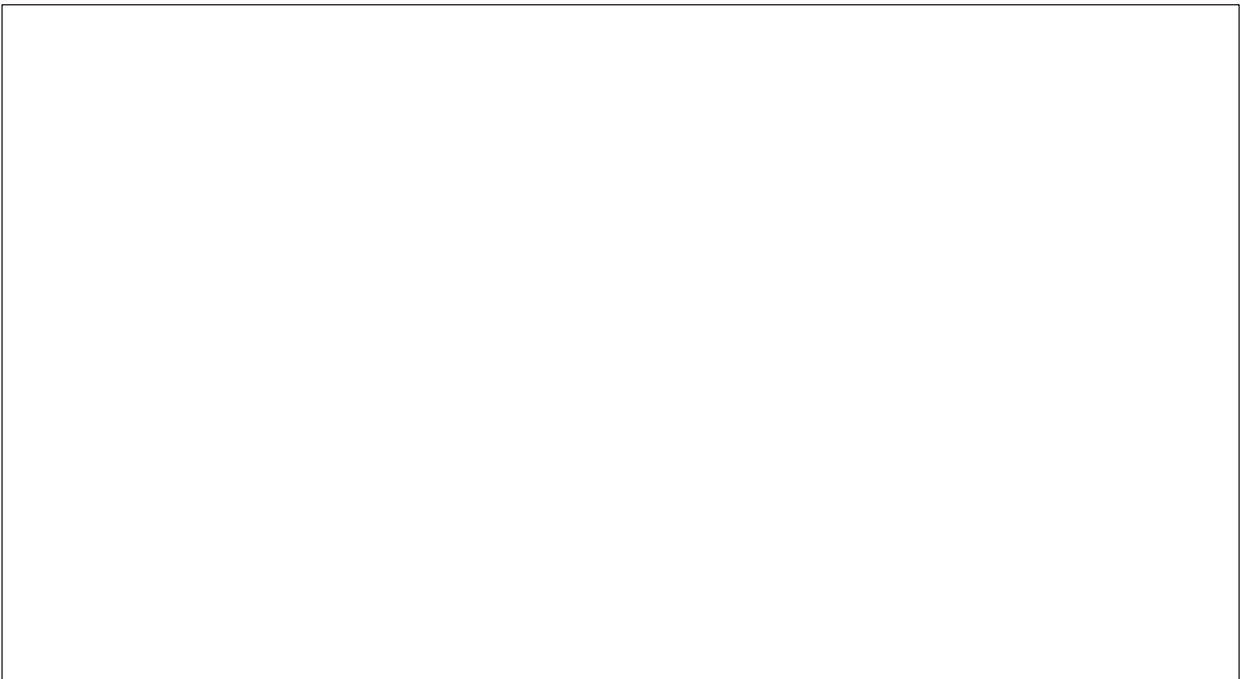
Retell the story in your own words thinking about the beginning, middle and end.

Beginning

Middle

End

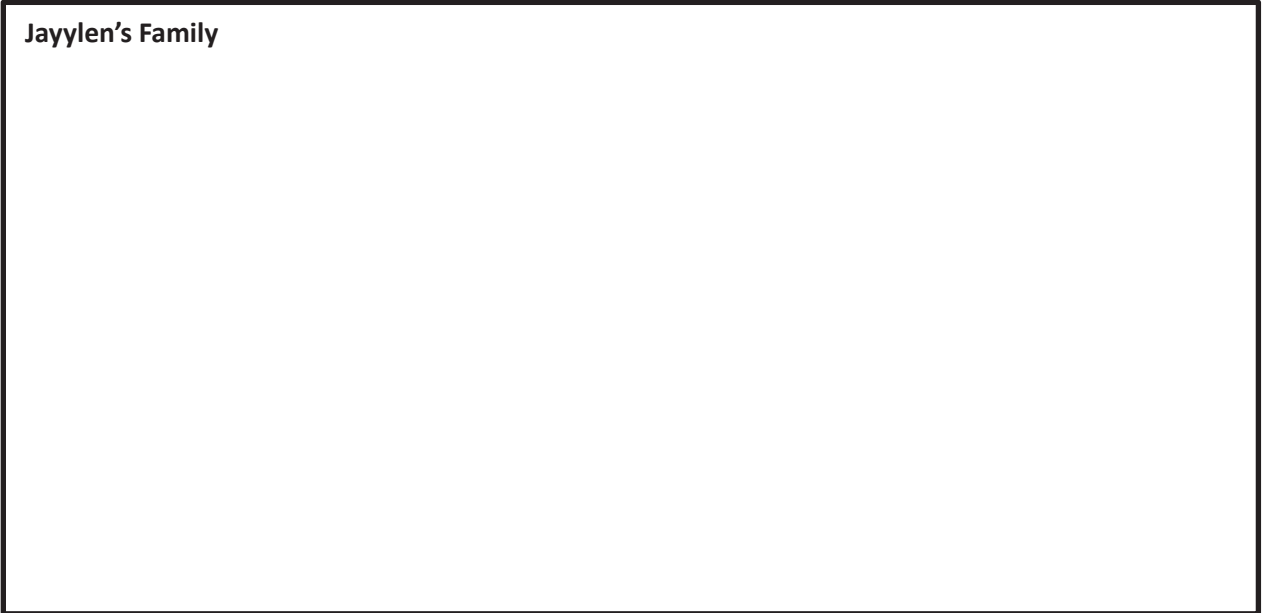
Retell or illustrate the story with a different ending.



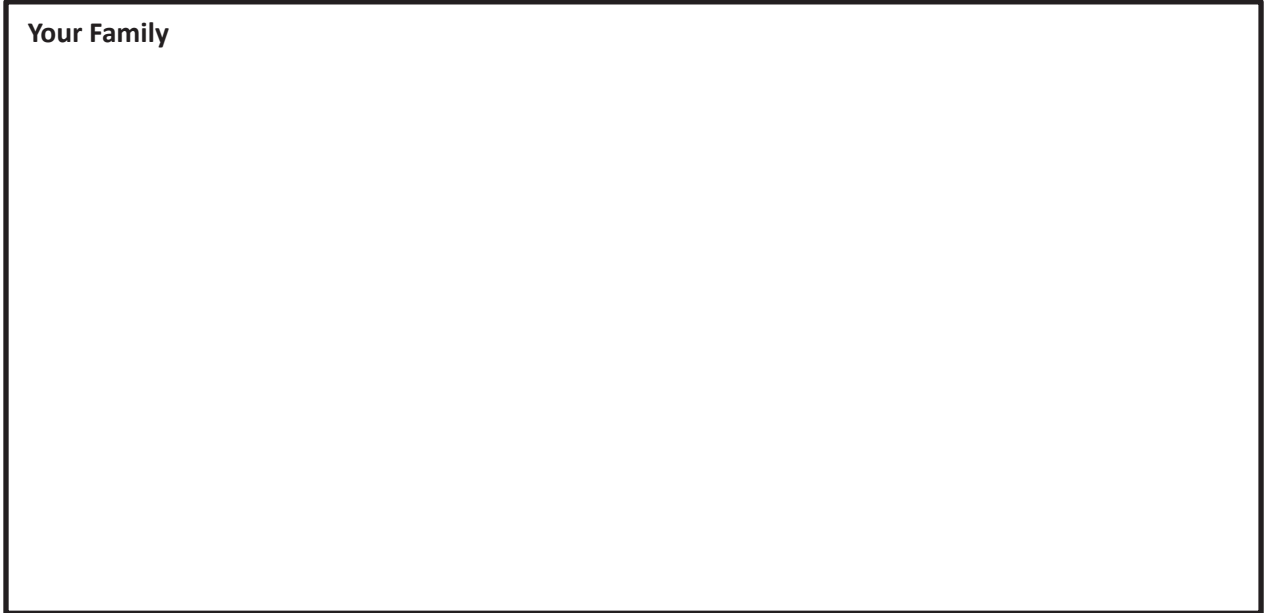
FAMILY TRADITIONS

Draw a picture relating to family Christmas traditions. Compare and contrast your Christmas traditions to Jayylen's Christmas traditions.

Jayylen's Family



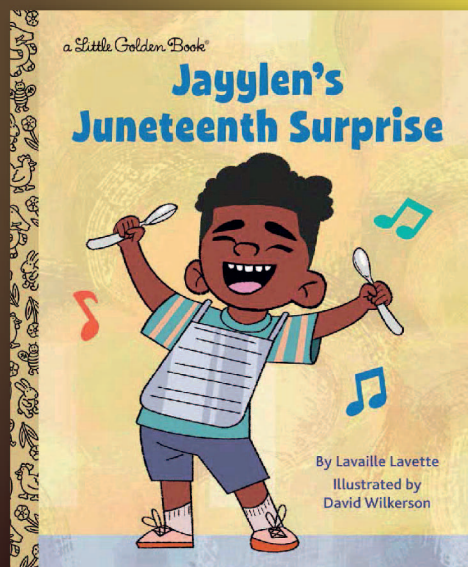
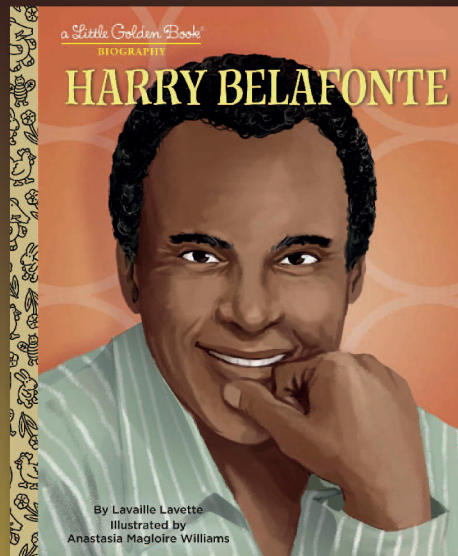
Your Family



CHOICE BOARD - Choose one or more projects below to promote learning.

Select one activity from your Christmas celebration and develop a comic strip to show fun and action between family and friends.	Research a Christmas song. Share the author and origin and background of the lyrics. Also, share various pictures if needed.	If you were Jayylen's friend, what message would you tell him to support him through his problem. What questions would you ask him?
Write an invitational letter to invite friends and family to your pretend Christmas gathering. Share the activities and meal with pictures to create excitement. Use many descriptive words to encourage readers to want to attend your Christmas celebration.	Create a collage of photos showing the joy of family and friends at Christmas time. Drawing pictures can also be used.	Pretend you are a TV reporter and create a video reporting on the Christmas celebration with Jayylen and family.
Select a character from the story and write at least three sentences about them.	Jayylen enjoys reading and learning about his hero, Elijah McCoy. Who/What do you enjoy reading about? Explain what and why.	Interview 3 people and find out how they celebrate Christmas Example Questions: Who do you celebrate Christmas with and where? What is the normal Christmas meal? What games or activities you do on Christmas?

Check out a few more great books!



www.jayylen.com

www.readlearnenjoy.com

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