

BAKING DAY *at* **GRANDMA'S**



*An Activity Kit for Bookstores,
Libraries, Classrooms and Parent Play*

ABOUT THE KIT

In the picture book *Baking Day at Grandma's* by **Anika Denise** and illustrated by **Christopher Denise**, three cubs join their grandmother for a day of baking. While their cake is in the oven, Grandma puts on some old-time music for “*skippy notes and tapping feet.*” The three cubs leave with treat bags with pieces of cake inside to share with their neighbors.

The companion activities in this kit invite readers to read the book, go on a treasure hunt to find a spoon for baking, and decorate treat bags for what they might bake at home. Best for ages 2-5.

“In an unexpected and sweet turn, the young bakers wrap up slices of cake in gift boxes to share, rather than sampling it themselves.” —Publishers Weekly

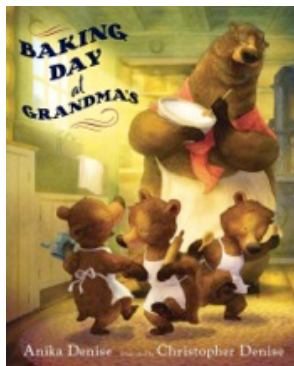
THIS KIT CONTAINS:

- Newsletter & Social Media Copy
- Read-aloud Prompts
- Snack Suggestions
- Step-by-step Guide to a Treasure Hunt & Craft Activity

VISIT THE WEBSITE (www.anikadenise.com/activities) FOR:

- Event Poster Templates (Downloadable PDF)
- Recipe Card (Downloadable PDF)
- Gift Tag Template (Downloadable PDF)

ABOUT THE BOOK



By Anika Denise; Illustrated by Christopher Denise
Published by Philomel, 2014
ISBN-13: 9780399242441
Hardcover: \$16.99
Board Book: \$7.99
Ages 3+

Three bouncing little bear siblings, wrapped tight in their winter clothes, can't wait to tromp through the snow for *Baking Day at Grandma's*! In a rhyming text that begs to be sung, the bears and their grandma pour and mix and stir—with breaks for hot cocoa and dancing—to create the perfect wintry treat. Then they wrap it up in ribbons to show that sweets are even better when they're shared. With a recipe in the back, this is a perfect family feel-good story for the fall, winter, and any holiday spent with grandparents.

“It's perfect for individual sharing, storytime, baking time, and pretty much any time.” —SLJ

ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

Award-winning author **Anika Denise** writes stories that tickle her funny bone, tug her heartstrings, feed her curiosity, and celebrate her multicultural heritage. She wrote *Baking Day at Grandma's* to honor the special memories she has of baking with her Grandma Rose. [Watch this video to learn more about the inspiration for the book.](#)

Christopher Denise is *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning children's book author and artist. He has illustrated more than twenty titles for young readers, including the Caldecott Honor Book *Knight Owl*. You can learn more about Chris at his website: www.christopherdenise.com.

PLANNING & HOSTING A “BAKING DAY” STORY HOUR

WHAT YOU MIGHT PREPARE — ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT

___ Locate a copy of the picture book *Baking Day at Grandma's* by Anika Denise and illustrated by Christopher Denise (Philomel).

___ If you are doing an event for the public, go to <http://www.anikadenise.com/activities> to download an event poster template. Edit and print the poster to hand out in your community.

___ Consider displaying the event poster in a display of cookbooks for kids and parents. Decorate it with the spoons you order for the event.

___ List the event in social media, newsletters, and online calendars with copy such as:

What better on a chilly day than a read-aloud set in a warm kitchen with a cake in the oven? Join the three cubs in the book *Baking Day at Grandma's* by Anika Denise and illustrated by Christopher Denise, as they bake, dance, and share. We'll stir up some fun and bake an imaginary cake of our own! All ages welcome, but best for ages 2-5.

___ Decide whether you will offer a snack at your event. Author Anika Denise offers several snack ideas on her Pinterest page: <http://www.pinterest.com/anikadenise/its-baking-day/>. Anika especially likes this healthy snack idea:



Bear Cub Bread & Fruit Slices Ingredients

- Sliced whole grain or whole wheat bread
- Peanut butter (or any nut-free spread alternative)
- Bananas sliced in “rounds”
- Blueberries

HOW-TO-PREPARE

1. Lightly toast bread if desired.
2. Spread thick layer of peanut butter on center of bread, leaving a border.
3. Place 3 round banana slices on bread to create ears and snout.
4. Add blueberries for eyes and one for a nose.

WHAT YOU MIGHT GATHER:

___ Inexpensive kitchen spoons (1 for each anticipated participant)
You can purchase bulk wooden spoons like [these on Amazon](#).

___ Mini treat bags (1-2 for each anticipated participant)
You can purchase treat bags like these in bulk, [also on Amazon](#).

___ Ribbon (4-6 inches for each anticipated participant) ___ Crayons and/or markers (for all to share)

___ Hole puncher (for all to share)

___ Kid-safe scissors (for all to share)

WHAT YOU MIGHT PREPARE - ONE WEEK OR MORE IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT

___ Print out the Recipe Card and Gift Card Template available at to hand out to families at the event.
<http://www.anikadenise.com/activities/>

___ Remind your social networks about the event.

WHAT YOU MIGHT DO - THE DAY OF THE EVENT

GETTING READY

___ Lay out the ribbon, crayons, markers, scissors, hole punchers, and Recipe Card and Gift Card Template printouts on your crafting table.

___ Hide each of the spoons in your space at child-level. If you are in the library, consider hiding the spoons near the non-fiction bear books and near cookbooks.

READ ALOUD TO TREASURE HUNT FOR SPOONS

___ Consider revisiting the 7th spread of the book which reads, *“Wooden spoon and measuring cup, mix the batter; stir it up. Fold it gently in the pan, lick the spoon because you can,”* as a reminder of the importance of the spoon.

___ Consider talking about all the ingredients and tools of baking—the most important being the spoon to stir and then lick the batter or frosting! Tell the kids you want to get them started on cooking with grandma, their parents, or other adults with their very own cooking spoon. Explain that some mischievous bears hid them all over the store/library and they should go on a treasure hunt to find them.

___ Ask everyone to return to you when they have their spoons.

___ Consider revisiting the 10th spread of the book which reads, *“Old-time music, soft and sweet. Skippy notes and tapping feet. Learning songs that Grandma sings—when the kitchen timer rings!”* as an invitation to move, dance, and pretend to stir the batter.

DECORATE YOUR TREAT BAGS

___ Consider revisiting the 12th spread of the book which reads, *“Tasty treats in pretty bags each marked with little tags,”* to introduce the craft.

___ Consider talking about the importance of sharing the food you cook with family, friends, and neighbors. Invite them to create gift bags to hold food or artwork or anything they would like to share.

___ Invite them to take gift tags and recipe cards home with them for their next baking or cooking adventure.

___ Go home and bake a cake. You deserve it!