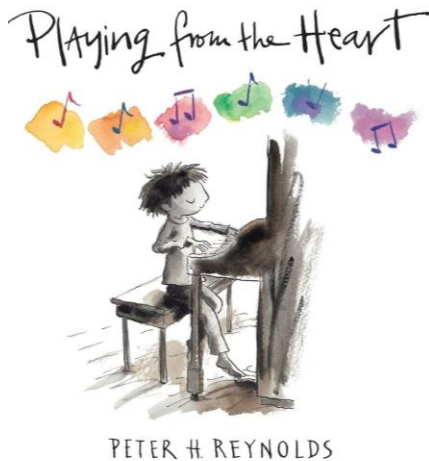


Discussion Guide for Families



Playing from the Heart

Author: Peter H. Reynolds

Illustrator: Peter H. Reynolds

Themes: Music, Expression, Connection

Book Brief: A boy learns to play piano with his dad's help, but as he gets better, he loses his love for music. When his dad gets sick and asks him to play, will he remember why he started?

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Model how to connect to the story by discussing the importance of passion and enjoyment in activities, even when they require practice and skill development.

While Reading: Make Connections

- Pause every couple of pages to have your child make connections to their own experiences regarding hobbies or activities. Ask them whether they have ever experienced something similar to Raj, where a hobby or activity they used to love became less enjoyable over time.

After Reading: Ask Questions

- What do you think the author is trying to teach us through Raj's story?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Listening to different genres of music together and discussing what they enjoy about each piece. They can also learn about famous composers and their works.