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Illustrated by Daniela Tourn



Stories that aren't stories

Stories to improve self-esteem, strengthen character
and promote dialogue in the family

NOT FOR SALE

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God's gift

Once upon a time, there was a sweet little grandma, everyone knew her as "Granny". She was very; very kind and she lived in a beautiful, big house.



Every afternoon Ariana and Benjamin visited Granny after school. They loved to go to Granny's house!



This was because she always had nice surprises. That afternoon, she baked cookies in the shape of animals, stars and other things, with colored sugar and melted chocolate. Mmmm... how yummy!



Each afternoon Granny told them a story. This time she looked for this big book, the Bible, to talk about something very important.



Did you know God gave us a very special gift? Here it says, when He made us in our mom's belly, He gave us the gift of being a woman or man. To be a girl or a boy is one of the many gifts that our good God gave us, said Granny.



"Why did he make us boys and girls?" asked Benjamin. "Because God thought that they would be happy being this way" answered Granny. "I'm very happy being a girl" said Ariana. "Do you both like this gift? What do you think about taking a moment to thank God for it?" replied Granny. "Great idea!" answered the kids.



In the house, while they were playing Ariana, said, "Benjamin, I really love God's gift. Since I'm a girl, one day I will put make-up on, I will wear skirts, and I will wear hair weaves. And someday, I'll become a mom." "I love God's gift too. Since I'm a boy, I'm going to beat you in races" replied Benjamin, just to bother her.




So the kids prayed like this: "Dear God, thanks for all the gifts that you have given to us. Thank you for thinking of us since we were in our mom's belly. Amen." Snip, snap, snout, this tale's told out.

Super Capable, your ideal friend



It was a beautiful day at the beach. Everyone enjoyed it very much. "Ariana, Benjamin! Come over here, I would like to tell you something special," Granny shouted from her chair. The children ran at full speed. They sat very close to her, to listen carefully. They always enjoy the teaching of Granny.



Granny started by saying, "Today I want to talk to you about Super Capable, the friend who will never abandon you. He knows everything and he can do everything! No one could ever defeat Super Capable!" Benjamin asked, "Is Super Capable a superhero?" "Yes, he is the only superhero that really exists. He has many friends and he helps all of them in special ways. He wants to do the same with you, if you accept his friendship," replied Granny.



"If you become a friend of Super Capable, you can count on all his wisdom, intelligence, joy, life and power. He wants to increase your abilities to think, love and dream. And do you know one more thing? Super Capable will always be glad of the progress you make, and it will hurt him if anything hurts you, because he is a true friend."



"For example," said Granny, "Amir is a friend of Super Capable. One day he helped Amir to create a mathematical program, despite of being very young. Do you know what Amir's secret is? He takes time in prayer every day to speak with Super Capable and he also hears the advice of this ideal friend."



"Soar, another friend of Super Capable, received help when her father was seriously ill. She found strength and a lot of peace because she asked Super Capable. If they feel sadness or someone is sick, Super Capable will give them peace and joy to overcome all pain or illness."



The children could not wait and in unison asked Granny, "Can we be friends with Super Capable?" She explained to them that in order to be friends with Super Capable they have to accept Jesus into their hearts. "When that happens, Super Capable will come and never leave you." The children shouted, "Yes we want that!" Then Granny led them to repeat the following prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I know you died on the cross to remove my sins. Forgive me for every bad thing I've done. I give you my life. I receive from your hand the Holy Spirit, who is Super Capable, the ideal friend. Amen."



“Tell Jesus that you accept him into your heart, just as Ariana and Benjamin did. Ask him to send you the Holy Spirit. Remember, Super Capable is the Holy Spirit, your ideal friend, a true friend. Once you accept his friendship he will never leave and will always surprise you. His desire is to take care of you and help you. Listen to him and obey him in order to succeed. Every day you will discover more about this special friend and you will love him like no one else. He will not give you ‘super- powers’ to disappear or to fly, but he will give you supernatural strength to face any difficulty. The Holy Spirit will always tell you about Jesus and will always tell you the truth. Many children have the friendship and company of the Holy Spirit who is Super Capable.”

A love story



Next Tuesday is mom's birthday. What can I give her? What can I do if I do not have any money? thought Ariana. She decided to talk to her Granny about it.



"Granny, I want to give my mom a gift for her birthday but I do not have any money to buy the present", said Ariana. While Granny thought of ways to help her. Ariana became sad and started crying.



Granny said "Don't be sad Ariana, don't cry. Let me tell you a story of great love. Maybe it can help us to find a solution."



Some years ago, a very little girl gives her dad a present. It was a big decorated box. Her dad was very, very glad.



But when he opened the box, he saw that the box was empty. So he shouted angrily: "Don't you know, when you give a gift, it must have something inside?"




"Oh daddy! It isn't empty, it isn't empty. I blew many, many kisses in the box. And all them are for you daddy," Said the girl crying.



The dad understood his big mistake, apologized, hugged her and thanked her for all the kisses that she had given him.



The story continues that this man kept this box at his bedside and when he was sad opened the little box, took out one of his daughter's kisses and he always was happy."



"What a beautiful story Granny!" said Ariana with a big smile. "If you like the idea," said Granny, "I'm going to knit a bag with gold thread and you will fill it with a lot of kisses and rose petals that we are going to look for together in the garden. I'm sure that your mommy will love it!" Snip, snap, snout, this tale's told out.

Cut, paste and remember!

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Every Friday Ariana and Benjamin ate a snack with Granny. This time Granny had something different waiting for them. The table was full of magazines and Granny had cut out many images.



Granny invited them to paste the images on some very fine paper. Ariana and Benjamin didn't know why Granny asked them to do it, but it was great fun. Besides Granny had promised them, if they finished quickly they would get some delicious ice cream.



"Today, my dears, I'm going to teach you something that will help you greatly, if you pay attention," explained Granny with a sweet voice. And then she added:



"First we're going to draw a bikini on each girl figure and the bathing suit shorts on each boy. Can you do it?" Taking a colored pencil, each one of the kids, began to draw.



"Remember that what we're marking are the parts of our body that are private. We cover those parts up when we walk down the streets, when we go to school or when we play in the square. Nobody should touch or look at our private parts. Nobody can tickle us there. As these parts are very important, we take extra care of them," said Granny, waving her finger.



Ariana and Benjamin started thinking about how everyone takes care of their private parts. "WOW! Granny has taught us a nice lesson!" -they said to each other -"we also have to take care of our private parts."

A special day



That morning, Benjamin and Ariana woke up in Granny's house. "Is the party today?" asked Benjamin; because going to Granny's house was always fun. "Yes", answered Granny. After eating breakfast she said, "I'll tell you something very nice!"



While Granny was baking cookies, Ariana and Benjamin had a delicious breakfast. It was so delicious that they forgot that Granny had to tell them something super cool!



When they finished breakfast, Granny told them some great news. "Do you remember when mommy had her big belly?" "Today your little brother is going to born!" said Granny. "Whoa! There's going to be two boys," said Benjamin, while he was playing with Granny's earrings.



“There’s going to be two boys and we’re going to win when it’s boys against girls. Ha ha ha”, said Benjamin. “Ugh! Granny, I want a girl” said Ariana and immediately asked. “Do they have to cut my mom’s belly to pop out the baby?”



Mmm... we don't know only sometimes" said Granny. "So then how is it born?" asked Ariana. Granny showed them a book and she explained how a baby is born.



"Most babies are born through a natural/childbirth. This is when the baby comes through the mom's vagina." Explained Granny. "Is it like pooping?" asked Benjamin. "No Benjamin, it's different. Only women have a vagina and it's through that body part the baby is born". Said Granny.



"Does it hurt a lot?" asked Ariana. Granny took a rubber band and she said: "Children, do you see how this rubber band stretches? Well, it's like this, the vagina stretches so that the baby can pass through. It hurts a little bit, but when the mommy sees her baby, she becomes so happy that she forgets about the pain."



Just then, their parents arrived with the baby. Ariana ran away and told her mommy: "I know how a baby is born and I want the next one to be a girl." Everyone began to laugh, happy for the little boy who was born and Arianna's request. Snip, snap, snout, this tale's told out.

Cousin Ramon



The day had come! Everyone gathered to celebrate Granny's sixtieth Birthday. Many people came because she was widely loved.



It was a big party! There was delicious food and a lot of gifts. Many kids were there to play. It was a really, really great party!



The kids ran through the house and played hide and seek. It was great fun because there were many places to hide, many places where the children could hide and not be found!



One of the older cousins, named Ramon, hid in Granny's bedroom and told Benjamin and Ariana that they should hide with him. They liked the idea.



When they were alone with Ramon, he told them that they were going to play a game that they couldn't tell anybody about because it was a secret.



So, Ramon dropped his pants and showed them his private parts! Benjamin didn't like what Ramon did and made a face of disgust. Ariana was afraid and ran away to tell Granny what happened.



Ariana remembered Granny's advice while she was running "Secrets aren't good... and we have to take care of our private parts".



When Granny came into the bedroom, she saw Ramon who she didn't know because he wasn't part of the family. He said that he didn't do anything and that Benjamin and Ariana were lying. However, the kids always told the truth, so Granny believed them.



Then, Granny called the police, so that Ramon couldn't scare the neighborhood kids anymore by continuing to do things like that.



When the parents of Ariana and Benjamin came into the bedroom, they left the baby with Granny and gave their children hugs, big bear hugs. "Good job, both of you, for calling Granny!" said their mother excitedly. "You did a very good job."



Before the blowing out of candles on Granny's birthday cake, Ariana and Benjamin gave her a big hug and they gave thanks for all that she had taught them, helping them defend themselves from that bad man. That day everyone happily celebrated Granny's birthday together. Snip, snap, snout, this tale's told out.

Stories that aren't stories

This book aims to help parents in shaping the character of their children and in the prevention of sexual abuse of children. Official investigations have shown that a proper sexual education at an early age, and good communication between parents and their children, decrease the likelihood of sexual abuse by 80%. With this in mind, we have the honor of sharing this material with you. We hope you and your kids enjoy it. For more help, contact us at www.placeresperfectos.com.ar



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