



Jazzy's News
December 1, 2024

Hello My Friends,

Happy November! Please invite your children to read the, "What Should Jazzy Do?" piece below and tell me their answer. I'm eager to hear them. Remember, if you haven't found the "new" me on Facebook, please friend me now. I changed my name from Ally back to Sonja. I'm on there as Sonja E McGiboney but the link still says Ally. <https://www.facebook.com/AllyAllowinter/>



What Happens Next?

A write your own ending story.

Jazzy's nose twitched. Her eyes flew open. "Cookies!"

She jumped off her bed and ran to the kitchen just as Sonja picked up a plate of cookies that smelled like sugar and spice. Jazzy loved cookies.

Sonja lifted the plate high into the air and shook her head. "These are not Jazzy Cookies. They are for Santa."

Tilting her head, Jazzy softly whined, "Please?"

Sonja shook her finger back and forth. "No way! Your puppy dog eyes are not going to get you these cookies."

Confused, Jazzy looked for the camera. Sonja always had cookies when there was a camera around. Then all she had to do was wait for Sonja to say, "Okay," and she could eat them.

Jazzy followed Sonja into the living room. Her eyes followed the plate as Sonja placed them on a table. The table sat next to the green tree that Jazzy was not allowed to chew on.

Sonja turned and looked at Jazzy. "Leave them alone, Jazzy. They are for Santa. You wouldn't want Theo not to get his presents, would you?"

Jazzy remembered the little boy, Theo, but still didn't know who Santa was. Would Santa share?

Later that night, when everyone was asleep, Jazzy woke from a dream about cookies. She wondered if they were still there. She snuck out of her bed and tiptoed to the living room.

The cookies still smelled wonderful. Maybe she'd just sniff them. She put her paws on the table and sniffed the goodness. She let her tongue touch one cookie. Her body shivered. Oh boy, did she want those cookies.

What do you think happens next? Does Jazzy eat the cookies? Does Sonja hear her and tell her no? Does Jazzy remember they are for Santa and leaves them alone? Maybe Santa comes down the chimney and shares them with Jazzy? What else might happen? Let me know.

Letters from Jazzy



Jazzy is ready to write some Holiday Letters. If you wish for your child to receive one, email Sonja at smcgphoto@gmail.com. Please answer the questions below so Jazzy knows exactly what type of card to send, and to whom & where to send it.

Parent Name

Child's Name

Child's Age

Holiday Card type (Xmas, Kwanza, Hanukah, etc.)

Street address

City and zip code

Share with your friends so they get a card too!

Crafts that you can make just by looking at the picture!



Oriental Trading



Country Living Magazine

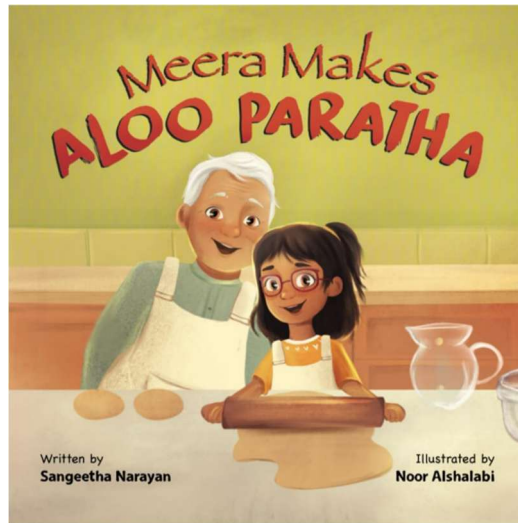


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Guest Author! Sangeetha Narayan



Learning can be a wonderful experience.

You can learn from others, or by doing or by reading a book. Or you can read this wonderful book where Meera's Dadaji teaches her to make an aloo paratha while teaching her that in life, often we have to take a deep breath and be open minded before we can take any decisions about our relationships.

This heart-warming story takes you into the heart of the Indian kitchen and shows the –

1. **Valuable bond** that **grandparents** can establish with their grandchildren
2. Cooking is not **gender bound** or **age bound**. It can be done by anyone of any age.
3. The importance of **conversations with family**.

Cooking and stories can be a fun way to guide our kids through the highs and lows of life.

Make sure you leave the book a review and ask the author for the classroom activity guide for this book via narayan.sangeetha@gmail.com



With an associate degree in early childhood education and a passion for writing, Sangeetha always aspired to write books that would help kids with social-emotional growth. Her belief that the older generation and daily chores can be therapeutic in assisting kids with a value-based upbringing. In her debut book, she takes her children's experiences with their paternal grandfather to show kids everywhere that patience, time and patience, cooking can also help teach life lessons. When she is not writing stories inspired by her children, Sangeetha delves into singing and drawing. She is currently working on editing her novella, a chapter book for middle graders and thinking of more stories related to Meera and her Dadaji.

The inspiration to write this story came from the author observing the relationship that her children shared with their grandparents. The author believes that the relationship shared by grandparents and grandchildren are equally beneficial to both generations.

Amazon link: [https://www.amazon.com/Meera-Makes-Aloo-Paratha-](https://www.amazon.com/Meera-Makes-Aloo-Paratha-Picture/dp/B0CKQ748K9/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=)

[Picture/dp/B0CKQ748K9/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=](https://www.amazon.com/Meera-Makes-Aloo-Paratha-Picture/dp/B0CKQ748K9/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=)

Barns & Noble link: <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/Meera%20Makes%20Aloo%20Paratha>:



Baking: I made salt dough with Theo, age two, and we had a blast. It's just 1 cup each of water and salt, and 2 cups of flour. We had fun playing in the flour and we'll use the dough to cut out shapes another time. Salt dough can be made into ornaments.

I'M BORED

With kids out of school what will you do? Why, Google it of course. Here are some activities I found that I liked the best.

1. **Boredom Bucket:** Use popsicle sticks and write down all the activities you found on Google and put the sticks in a jar. When a child says, "I'm Bored" or "There's nothing to do," you can bring out the jar full of ideas and they pick one.
2. **Make a campsite,** indoors. Cover a table with a large blanket to make a fort. Turn chairs sideways (so they don't tip over), cover them with the blanket and create a crawling maze. Set up your outdoor tent, indoors. Let the kids eat in the tent you made.
3. **Make cards** for other people. Is there a retirement home or something, maybe you can have the kids craft things to take there.
4. **Scavenger hunts** are the best. I did them for almost every one of my kid's birthdays. Set up clues that take them to another clue, etc. and in the end, there could be a bag of cookies or some other treasure.

There are so many great ideas out there. Just Google them.



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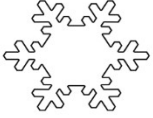
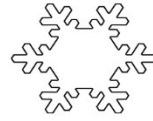
I met two of the organizers of this organization in Huntsville, AL. They are great people and the organization is all about the child. Their newsletters are full of information and activities based on concentrating on a child's strengths to, identify strengths together, set natural talent-based goals, and open communication support systems.

Visit their website for more resources for educators, social workers, parents & guardians. See their list of services, educational workshops, and Amazon Library of children's books. Explore their upcoming events for fun for the whole family and find out where their crochet animals will pop up next.

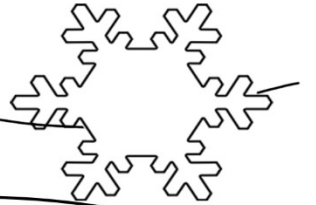
<https://strengthenhands.com/#home>

Snow for Jazzy's Alabama Fans

And Two Santa's too!



Jazzy. Are we getting cookies after this?



We're Santa's right?
We get all the cookies!

