

2. ‘Lockdown’ Family Activity

Write a Birthday Story as a Gift for a Child in Your Family

www.hazeledwards.com

Writing a story can be a gift of the imagination, as well as a record of family times.

- 1. Write around the family photos you already possess rather than start with the text.**
- 2. Include all family members in the action and photos.**
- 3. Choose a topic which interests that aged child and becomes part of their his-story or her-story.**
- 4. Create a low resolution digital format to email but print out copies too.**
- 5. Choose a slip- in folder or more elaborate binding.**
- 6. Apt title.**
- 7. Dedicate the book to the child.**
- 8. Write one sentence per visual. Use repetition.**
- 9. Aim for an easy reading rhythm. Test by reading aloud.**

- 10. Don’t forget, a twist for the end.**

Optional extras:

You can make the story WITH the child.

Add a collage of ‘feelie’ bits.

Use a contrasting story of then and now, for a family event. E.g. starting school. Contrast photos from your schooldays.

Make a few copies for extended family.

READ the book together.



Hazel Edwards is the author of ‘There’s a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake.’ She has three grandsons for whom she writes a story each birthday ‘Who is Hiding?’ is here.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MRpgjiVo_ls