

Gram Teaches Beth to Knit

(Story word: learn, gorgeous, bargain, stitches)

For a long time, Beth begged Gram to teach her to knit. She loved to sit at night by Gram's chair and listen to her needles clicking away. Gram made hand-knit gifts that were gorgeous. But when she asked Gram to teach her to knit, Gram always had an excuse. Beth concluded that Gram thought Beth was unable to learn to knit.

At lunch Beth said, "Gram, I know you think I'm not old enough to learn to knit, but I'm in sixth grade! Couldn't we at least try it one time?" This time, Gram could not resist Beth's request.

Gram said, "If you want to knit and will not get frustrated when mistakes happen, and in the beginning they will happen a lot, I can try to teach you. But you must understand that it will take some time." Beth wanted to get

started right away, but Gram said that they needed to make a trip to the knitting shop.

At the shop, Gram bought some huge plastic needles. They reminded Beth of the fat pencils she had used in kindergarten. Then Gram selected a big ball of yarn from the bargain box. She didn't even ask if Beth liked the color. Beth started to look at the beautiful projects displayed in the shop, even though she knew it would be a long time before she was ready to take them on.

Gram explained to the owner of the store, "My granddaughter wants to learn to knit, so we are getting just a few things to learn some stitches."

"That's wonderful," the owner said. She turned to Beth and added, "And how lucky you are to have a grandmother who can teach you to knit." Beth looked at Gram's face—Gram looked so happy and proud.