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### Trade Book Sheet

**Title of Book:** Grandfather's Journey

**Author's name:** Allen Say

**Publisher:** Houghton Mifflin Company

**Reading level:** Lexile 650L

**copyright year:** 1993

**genre:** Fiction

**Synopsis of story:** This is the story of the author's memories of his grandfather, who left Japan for California, and eventually returned to Japan with his family. Though the grandfather was happy to be home in Japan, he missed the mountains and rivers he left behind. When his grandfather dies, the author, who grew up in Japan, decides to see the mountains and rivers his grandfather missed so much. He stays in California, but like his grandfather, never forgets his homeland.

**Standard: 4.3.3** Use knowledge of the situation, setting, and a character's trait, motivations, and feelings to determine the causes for that character's action.

**Activity:** the student will write an essay about their journey. The teacher will use this story as a model for students own journeys (such as a trip to the grocery store; a visit to a different city, state, or country; or a move). To guide their writing, use questions such as these that parallel the book:

- Where did you go?
- How did you travel?
- What did you bring with you?
- What were some of the first things you saw?
- What did you like best about the place you traveled to?
- What did you miss about home?
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**Standard: 4.1.1** Identify most important events and movements that changed life in Indiana in the twentieth century.

**Activity:** Have the students conduct oral histories interviews with members of their families. The person should be at least in their late 50s. The interview should include something about the person's childhood, decisions made that affected their lives, and what they did in their later life. Transcribe the tapes into a book the students can keep about their families.

Idea from:

<http://www.eduplace.com/tview/tviews/g/grandfathersjourney.html>