

Our Grandparents

A Global Album

Maya Ajmera
Sheila Kinkade
Cynthia Pon

With a foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu



A GLOBAL FUND FOR
Children
BOOK

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To my nana and naniji and dada and dadiji—M. A.

For Mimi, who showed her love in so many ways—S. K.

To my grandparents and their grandparents . . . ,
for their perseverance, generosity, and love—C. P.

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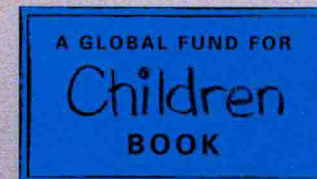
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South Africa



Foreword

Grandchildren are a wonderful gift. They allow us to see the world, once again, through the eyes of a child. We become more aware of life's simple treasures—the perfection of a spider's web, the wonders of a starfish. We laugh. We sing. We play with our grandchildren. Their joyful innocence awakens the child in us and gives us hope for the future.

As grandparents we also bear important responsibilities. Just as our grandchildren make us more present to the world around us, we must be present to them. We need to listen carefully and look them in the eye when they share their triumphs and struggles, their hopes and dreams.

Our experiences, collected over a lifetime, make us valuable teachers and mentors. What are the lessons our grandchildren most need to learn from us? Love. Compassion. Integrity. Perseverance. If we do our job well,

our grandchildren will grow to have open minds and open hearts.

In our role as elders, we help bridge the present with the past. We tell stories from our own childhood of how we lived, and how times have changed. We share the old ways and time-honored traditions. We make sure that the wisdom of our ancestors is passed on to the next generation.

In watching my own grandchildren grow, I am reminded of how easily their attitudes and beliefs are shaped. Will they grow up secure in their own self-worth? Will they know limitation, or will they have the courage to soar? The love and support we give our grandchildren helps safeguard their future—and makes the world a better place.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



Our grandparents
love us. They give the
biggest hugs and hold
our hands.



India



Mexico



USA



Even when we speak softly, they **listen**.
They encourage us.

USA



USA



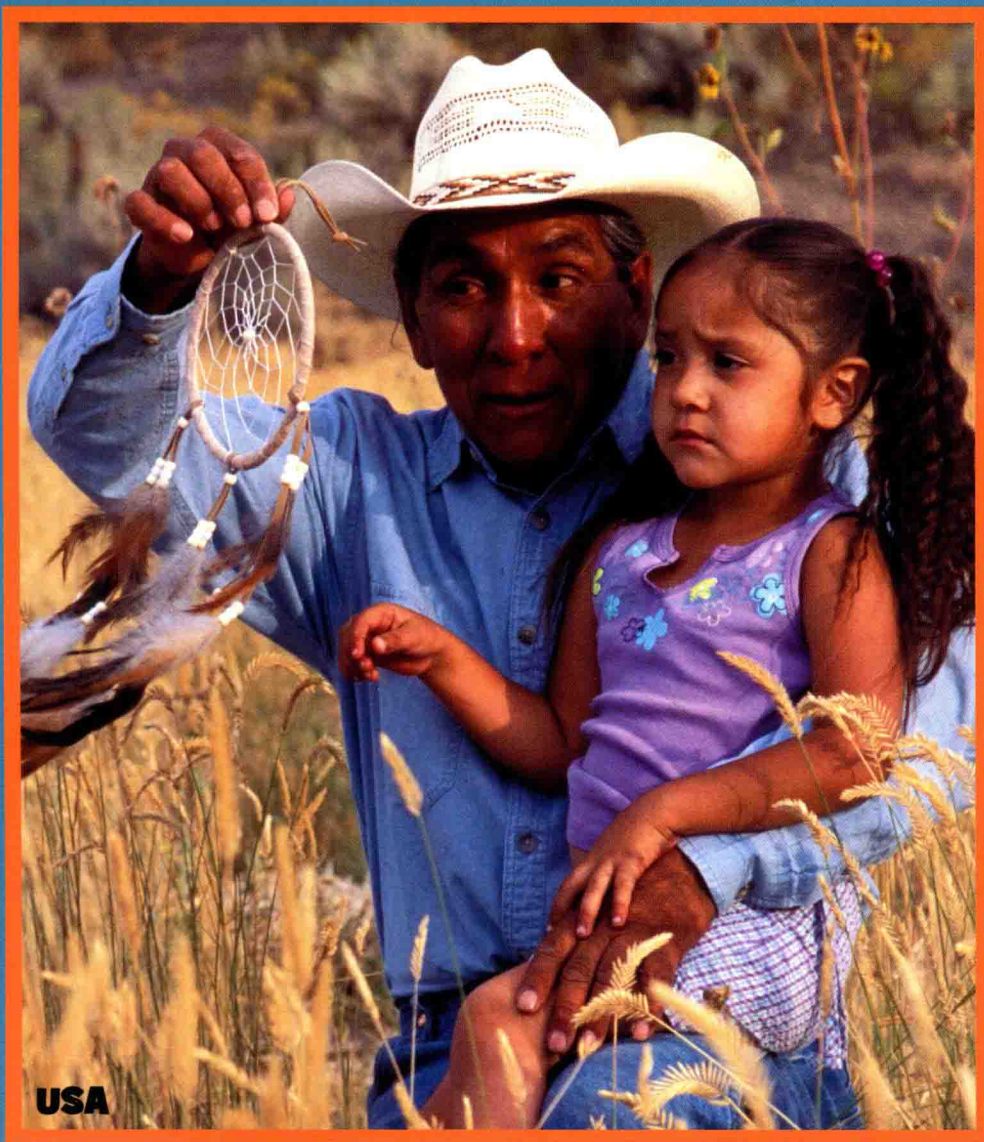
Saudi Arabia



Grandparents **explore** the world with us.







They tell good **stories**.
We love to read together!



China



Grandparents **play** and
laugh with us.

