

## Bookfolio for **Grand Papa and Ellen Aroon**

**Author:** [Ferdinand N. Monjo](#)

**Illustrator:** Richard Cuffari

**Publisher:**

**ISBN:** 0030120918

**Recommended for:** [Grades 3-5](#)

**Classification:** Fiction

**Genre:** [Biography](#)

**Story Summary:** Nine-year-old Ellen Randolph admired President Thomas Jefferson for his accomplishments as a statesman and inventor, but mostly she loved him, for he was her dear Grand Papa. Through Ellen's eyes, Ferdinand Monjo is able to provide glimpses of Thomas Jefferson's personal, family life. We learn of his fifty year habit of rising before the sun, his love of nature, and his penchant for making lists of all kinds. He valued industriousness, intellectual curiosity, and kindness, and inspired these traits in others, especially his children and grandchildren. Although Ellen mentions some of Grand Papa's achievements, her story is not meant to be a complete biography. Instead, the reader comes to know Thomas Jefferson as a real person who served his country in the "splendid misery" of the Presidency but who was most happy at home at Monticello, gardening, riding horses, reading, and playing games with his grandchildren.

**Read-aloud Recommendation:** Chapter 3, "At Monticello," pages 35-54.

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:**

**R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

Grand Papa and Ellen Aroon - Independent Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">The Legend and the Man</a> (Identifying character traits)	R , W
2. <a href="#">More About Jefferson</a> (Comparing two biographies)	R , S , W
3. <a href="#">A Family Album</a> (Making a scrapbook)	D , R
4. <a href="#">A Brief Biography</a> (Writing a biographical sketch)	R , W
5. <a href="#">Inauguration Day</a> (Drawing a map)	D , R
6. <a href="#">From the Desk of Thomas Jefferson</a> (Presenting a report)	D , R , S
Grand Papa and Ellen Aroon - Group Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Through the Eyes of a Child</a> (Giving a book talk)	R , S
2. <a href="#">Grand Papa Celebrates</a> (Writing a new chapter)	S , W
3. <a href="#">Grand Papa's Friends</a> (Researching a topic)	R , S
4. <a href="#">Quite a Good Bargain!</a> (Making a map)	D , R
5. <a href="#">About the Mockingbird</a> (Writing a report)	R , S , W
6. <a href="#">"Let's Talk About..."</a> (Discussing the story)	L , S

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