

## Jeremy's Decision – Reading Guide

Author: Ardyth Brott   Illustrator: Michael Martchenko

Themes: self-expression, confidence

Lesson/Notes: Jeremy feels anxious when adults ask if he wants to be a conductor like his father, but an observant reporter helps Jeremy find the confidence to make a decision and express it. *Everyone has unique interests. It's okay to be yourself and kindly say what you think.*

---

### Discussion Questions

- *What question is bothering Jeremy? (Are you going to be a conductor like your father?)*
- *How does he feel when asked that? (nervous, worried, uncomfortable, anxious)*
- *How can you tell he feels [above answer]? (pretending to look at shoe, book, imaginary fluff, mosquito bite, reading in corner)*
- *How did the others react when Jeremy decided he wanted to be a paleontologist? (surprised then positive/glad for him)*
- *What type of job would you like to do when you grow up?*

### Activity: When I Grow Up

Supplies: paper, colored pencils, (optional: dress-up clothes, toys)

- Encourage child to think about what (s)he likes to do and what career (s)he might enjoy. Direct child to draw about one (or more) idea.
  - If possible, child can also dress up like someone with that job and play with related toys.
  - Take care not to criticize or laugh at a child's idea. If it is unethical, explain this and encourage other ideas.
- Remind child that it's okay to have many interests. Sometimes people have similar interests, and sometimes they are different. It's also okay to change your mind.