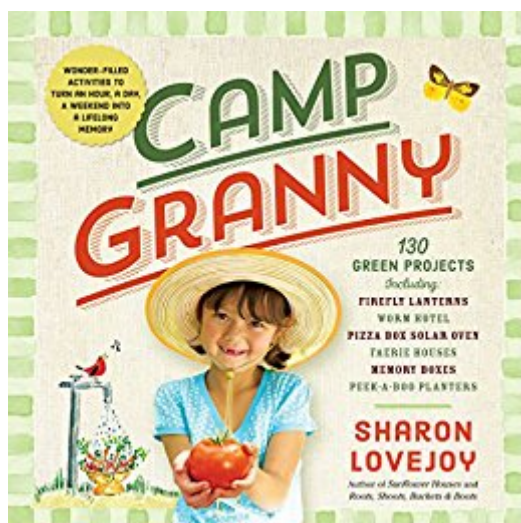


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# Camp Granny: A Grandma's Bag Of Tricks



## Synopsis

"For green grandparents everywhere and the young lives they touch." —RICHARD LOUV, AUTHOR OF LAST CHILD IN THE WOODS Make leaf rubbings, blow jumbo bubbles, bake Moon Pizzas, create a firefly lantern. More than an activity book, CAMP GRANNY is an interactivity book, filled with 130 projects that connect grandparents and grandchildren through nature—in the kitchen, the garden, and the art room. Illustrated with evocative photographs and the author's watercolors, CAMP GRANNY is a book about being adventurous, about being curious, about noticing and really seeing things—about instilling a lifelong sense of wonder. Please note: CAMP GRANNY was previously sold under the title Toad Cottages & Shooting Stars.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you're a grandma or a mom (or even a nature-loving, kid-daffy grandpa or dad), you're going to be delighted by Sharon Lovejoy's latest book, Toad Cottages & Shooting Stars. It is the ultimate Granny Handbook, designed especially for those of us who are lucky enough to have at least one small child to introduce to life in the kitchen, the backyard, and the garden. Sharon Lovejoy has

always helped us to work with our kids in the garden, from her delightful Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots to Sunflower Houses; Hollyhock Days; and A Blessing of Toads. But Toad Cottages & Shooting Stars is special, because it is designed as a "manual" for grandmas, and Lovejoy has crammed it full of playful activities that even grannies without green thumbs can manage and kids will absolutely love. To whet your appetite, here is a short sampling from the six chapters: Faerie Mailboxes, Firefly Lanterns, No-Bake Nests, Be a Pumpkin Parent, Potato Volcanoes, and Worm Hotel. Want more? How about these chapter titles? Preparing Camp Granny (lots of fine ideas, even if you're a long-distance granny). Or The Neighborhood Naturalist, Kids in the Kitchen, the Kitchen Garbage Garden (starts with an activity called "Learning from Leftovers"), Kids in the Garden, and Rainy Day Activities. Each chapter offers recipes (Moon Pizzas, anybody?), games, and activities--each one a learning opportunity for both granny and grandkid. And best of all, the book overflows with color photographs and Lovejoy's delightful drawings of bugs, plants, food toys, and faeries. Every page is a treasure.

Sharon Lovejoy is my ideal grandmother. She spends time browsing craft stores and home centers for child-friendly materials. She readies her house for her grandchildren's visits by setting up "camp granny" - stocking rooms with dress-up clothes, children's books, and child-friendly activities. She maintains an active and creative line of communication with long-distance grandkids. And she relishes nature walks and garden experiments with little ones. If only more grandparents were like her...My own mother isn't and if yours is more couch-potato than amateur naturalist then this book won't change that. I'm giving my mom this book because I found it second-hand, asked her if she wanted it, and she replied casually "yes" without questioning what exactly what it was. I'm pretty sure that after I give it to her and she has had time to look it over in the privacy of her own home (if she even gets that far) she'll say "well, I'm not doing any of these activities because they're too much work" and proceed to use the TV as a babysitter if I leave my children in her care. Who should buy this book: Grandmothers or grandfathers (these activities really aren't gender-specific) looking for ways to enjoy time with their grandkids over the age of 5 (a 2-year-old who has to be watched like a hawk so she won't slice her hand open with pinking shears is a totally different animal than a 7-year-old who knows not to eat toadstools) in the garden and in the kitchen. It also helps if the grandparent in question is in good health, is free of mobility issues, and has a sizable garden (though many of the plant activities can be done indoors). Who should NOT buy this book: People hoping to transform lazy, unimaginative, or infirm grandparents into elderly Mary Poppins.

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