

Fiction

# I Used to Help Too

by Terry Miller Shannon  
illustrated by Judy Stead



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## STRATEGIES & SKILLS

### Comprehension

Strategy: Ask and  
Answer Questions

Skill: Character, Setting,  
Plot

### Phonics

long *a*

### High-Frequency Words

help, too

Word count: 182



**Education**

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Shane put his clothes in the drawer.

“Thank you, Shane,” Mom said.  
“You’re a big help now.”

“I used to help too!” Shane said.

Mom laughed. “Is that what you’d call it?” she asked. She gave her head a little shake.



"Mom!" Shane said. "I was a big help! I put clothes away on wash day."

"Yes," Mom laughed. "But now you put them away in the right place!"



"I used to help you cook too,"  
he told her.

Mom said, "I'm not sure I'd call  
it help!"



"Well," said Shane, "I helped rake leaves."

Mom smiled. "You'd shape them into a pile and jump on them!"



Shane said, "Mom! It's a shame you can't remember! I was always a big help picking up toys."

Mom laughed. She couldn't seem to stop.





Shane tried again. "I liked to help you in the garden too."

"You are more help in the garden now," Mom said, laughing.



Shane said, "We don't remember things the same!"

Mom hugged him. "Once you were too small to be a big help. But you always helped me smile!"

## Literacy Activities



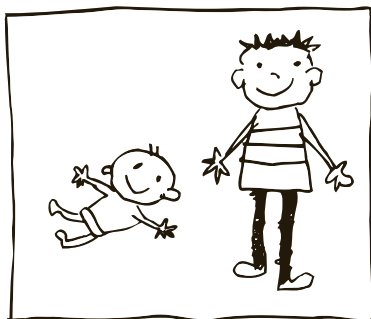
### How Shane Helps

Talk to your partner about the book. How did Shane help his mom before? How does he help now?



### I Changed!

Draw a picture of yourself when you were younger. Then draw a picture of the way you are now. Write about how you have changed.



# Growing Up

GR H • Benchmark 14 • Lexile 240L

Grade K • Unit 9 Week 1

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