

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

There isn't any mention of grandparents in the story, but I kept wishing I had a place in the story for Lexie's grandparents to meet the boys. I contemplated a surprise visit, grandparents living nearby might take a ride to the beach house to see their granddaughter. It seemed ripe for humor. But the idea also felt like it would interrupt the flow of Lexie's growing understanding. However, your students could imagine such a scene and play it for all the madcap incident their imaginations have to offer.

Lists can be fun. And conflicts, contrasts, are part of what make a story interesting. Have students write a list of one good thing about the beach alternating with one not so good thing until they have as long a list as they can make.

Kids might like to write their own imaginary day at the beach. If letter-writing is part of the curriculum, they could write it like a letter from camp. Have them write it to a movie producer in the hopes someone will make a movie about their family.