

Germy Johnson's Secret Plan - Grade 3

Germy Johnson's Piano War - Grade 3

Personal and Philosophical

Children need to believe in their own self-worth and to feel that they have control over the things that happen to them. Children need to look inward and focus on self-image and self-esteem. They need to reflect on self and life, and on their beliefs and values and those of their society.

In Germy Johnson's Secret Plan (re-issue, originally published by Scholastic Canada in 1992) J.J. day-to-day life is upset badly when Great Aunt Pru comes for a lengthy visit, and gets to stay in J.J.'s bedroom. J.J., in turn must share with his baby sister. His plans to get rid of Aunt Pru consistently backfire, and through this experience he gains a better appreciation of family.

In Germy Johnson's Piano War, J.J. and his best friend Derek get stuck taking piano lessons – during the exact same time as their favourite Saturday TV show! During the course of their rebellion, the friendship is severely tested. J.J. gains a better understanding of what it means to do one's best versus taking the easy way out, as well as what it means to be a friend.