

**Young Authors - Miles and William Rabun**

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## TALKING POINTS

### **My Grandma's Backyard**

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Today's kids are looking for an inspirational children's book to peak their interest to read and learn. Now, we have *My Grandma's Backyard*, which is written from a kid's perspective, by kids and about kids! *My Grandma's Backyard* is also an inspiration for young authors to write and publish their early writings and a testimony that it can be done even while one is still young!

*My Grandma's Backyard* is a story that is a positive reflection of two African-American young brothers who visit their grandmother for the summer. The grandmother's love for nature and outdoors is shared with the boys to make summer really fun. All communities will embrace the achievement of these brothers doing something positive and inspirational while promoting literacy, and the importance of writing and reading comprehension.

#### **Authors' talking points:**

- **Kids are never too young to write and publish a book.** At 7 and 5, Miles and William finished their first manuscript of *My Grandma's Backyard*. Finally at 8 and 6 the process was complete. If you dedicate yourself to write about something you love to do and keep improving your writing after you have written it down, you can share your story with others.
- ***My Grandma's Backyard* is based on a real backyard in Atlanta, Georgia** and the professional color illustrations are a real depiction of what Miles and William find and do in their grandmother's backyard. There are bridges, stone frogs, a blue shiny ball, a kettle and much more! Cleaning out the pond is a favorite activity for Miles and William as well as reciting poems on the stage in the backyard.
- ***My Grandma's Backyard* is more than a story; there are fun activities included.** The first part of *My Grandma's Backyard* includes Miles and William's original story and then continues with a matching activity, vocabulary words, reading comprehension exercises and games with an answer key.
- **Discover and Explore Nature. The world of nature surrounds us all and can be as close as your own backyard.** Miles and William found fun and adventure in rocks, flowing water, plants, insects and much more in their grandma's backyard.

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