frank b. gilbreth jr. and ernestine gilbreth carey



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With a New Preface by Ernestine Gilbreth Carey

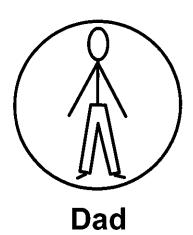


by Frank B. Gilbreth Jr., & Ernestine Gilbreth Carey

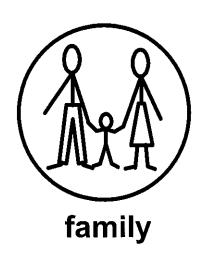
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Chapter 1 - Vocabulary









Chapter 1





Dad was a proud man. He was tall and weighed more



than 200 pounds. Dad dressed nicely. He wore shirts with a Herbert





Hoover collar. Dad was proud of his business. He told other businesses





how to do their job faster and better. This is called job efficiency.



Dad and mom had 12 children. They knew that they could take good

care of their children.







Dad was proud of his family.





Dad practiced job efficiency in our home. We knew the best way to



wash dishes, brush our teeth, and clean our rooms. Dad would time us



doing our jobs. He would watch every move we made. He would count



the minutes it took to do the job. Then, he told us the best way to



do our jobs. We had to fill out a chart everyday when we finished our





jobs. Then, dad checked the charts.







Dad was proud of his family.



Dad had a special way of calling all of us together quickly. It was



called the assembly call. Assemble means to get together. Dad would

blow a whistle. Then, we would all line up in the front of the house.



One time, there was a small fire in the driveway. Dad called us

together and we put out the fire with buckets of water.







Dad was proud of his family.



Sometimes, dad would use the assembly call to yell at us



when we did something bad. But, most of the time dad would give

us surprises. He would shake our hand and put a chocolate bar or new



pencil in it! We told dad thank you. Then, he would hug us and ruffle

our hair.

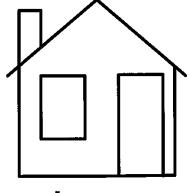






Dad was proud of his family.

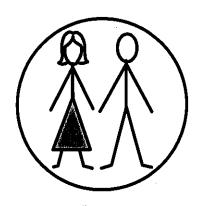
Chapter 2 Vocabulary



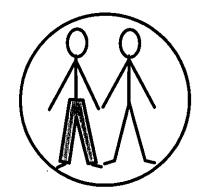




car



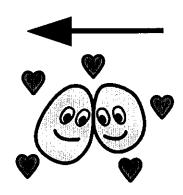
sister



brother



joke



loved





One day, dad took us to see our new house. First, he told us that it





was an old, broken house. He took us to a house that was falling



apart. Our sister, Ernestine, started to cry. Mother said that it would be





alright. She asked dad if this was really the house.











Dad looked in his pocket. "By jingo", he said, "This is not our house.





I made a mistake". Then, dad took us to a big house with 14



rooms and a great backyard. We thought that it was another joke. But



it was really our new house.











Dad bought a new car before we moved. He told each of us to

look at the engine and "find the birdie". When we were close to the



engine, dad blew the horn. It was so loud in our ears! Then, he

would say, "Did you find the birdie?"











One day, the car broke down. It was a hot day. Dad was tired



and hot. All of us were tired and upset. Dad looked at the engine. Our



little brother, Bill, snuck over to the driver's seat. He honked the horn in







dad's ear! He said, "Did you find the birdie, daddy?" At first, dad was



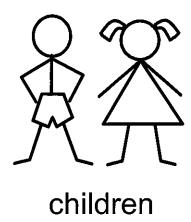
mad. Then, he laughed with us. This became dad's favorite story.

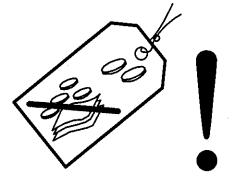






Chapter 3 Vocabulary





cheaper



dozen



Chapter 3





Dad liked to take us for rides in the car. All of us had to put on



big robes called dusters so that our clothes would not get dirty. We lived

in a time when the roads were still made of dirt. Dust would cover our





clothes after a long ride. People would stare at our big family in the









car. They asked dad how he took care of so many children. Dad





joked that it cost less money to feed a big family than a small







12

family. Dad said we were "cheaper by the dozen".



Sometimes, dad asked if we could pay less money for tickets. The

12

ticket man would look at all 12 of us and let us in for free. He



felt sorry for dad.





12

Dad said we were "cheaper by the dozen".

One day, a man saw that we were wearing the same kind of dusters to





cover our clothes. He asked dad if we were from an orphanage. An





orphanage is a home for children that do not have parents. Children in the





orphanage wear the same kind of clothes. Dad almost said yes to play







a joke on the man, but mom was mad. Then, dad told the



man that we were one big family.

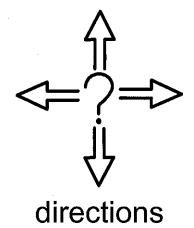


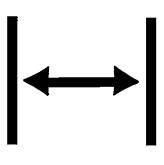


12

Dad said we were "cheaper by the dozen".

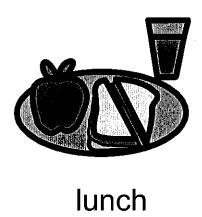
Chapter 4 Vocabulary





opposite





Chapter 4







Dad loved to drive. But, he did not pay attention to directions from the



Automobile Blue Book. The Automobile Blue Book was a book of directions







for drivers. Mother would read the directions and dad would go the





opposite way. Then we would get lost. Finally, mother would give the baby





a bottle. This was her way of telling dad to stop for lunch. It was









also mother's way of telling dad to read the directions! Dad always







agreed. We had fun with mother and dad.





On our picnic lunch, dad would find something to teach us.



Sometimes, he found an anthill. We would watch the ants. Then, dad

would tell us how well the ants worked together.





Mother would make up a story about the queen of the ants. We loved

to hear her make up stories.





Dad loved her stories, too.







We had fun with mother and dad.

There were no bathrooms when we went on picnics. We went into the



woods when we had to go to the bathroom. Dad took the boys and





mom took the girls. Dad called this visiting Mrs. Murphy. So, when



dad asked, "Who needs to visit Mrs. Murphy?" we knew what he

meant.







We had fun with mother and dad.

On our way home at night, we sang songs. We sang, "She'll be coming

"round the mountain" and "Row, row, row, your boat". When we sang,



mother would say "Right now is the happiest time in the world.

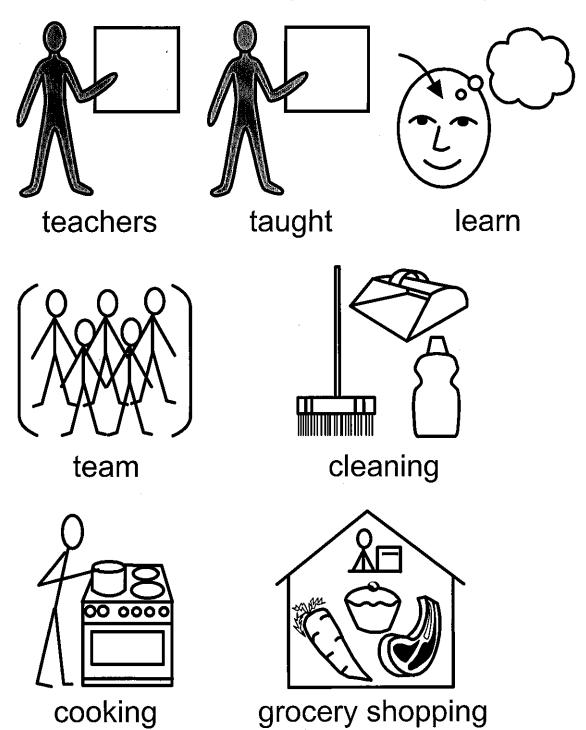






We had fun with mother and dad.

Chapter 5-6-7 Vocabulary



Chapter 5-6-7



Dad started out as a bricklayer. A bricklayer builds walls using bricks.







Dad loved to watch how bricklayers did their job. Next, he figured



out the best way to do the job. Soon, he was the fastest bricklayer.



His bosses gave him better jobs with more money. Then, he had his



own building business. He built factories. He taught people in the factories



the best way to do their job.











Mother went to college to learn about people. She studied psychology.





Mother knew how to help children behave. She knew ways to help workers









want to do their jobs well. Mother and dad were a good team.



They knew about helping people do their jobs.















Mother and dad taught us how to work together. We formed a family



committee. A committee is a team of people that helps make good



choices. Our committee made choices about chores. Chores are jobs that









children do in the house. All of mother and dad's children had chores.







We helped with cleaning, cooking, grocery shopping and watching the babies.

















Mother and dad taught us many skills at home. First, dad taught



us how to type. Then, he gave us records to learn how to speak



French and German. Finally, he taught us how to multiply big numbers



without using a calculator. Dad wanted to make films to show off our



skills. Mother said that showing off would not be good for us.













Sometimes, dad would visit our schools. The principal and the teachers





smiled at him. The other children thought that dad was a great guy. It



made us feel embarassed when dad came to school. He wanted



everyone to know that we were smart. The teachers already knew. We had

good grades in school.

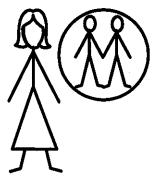


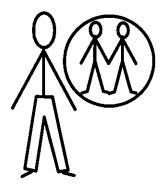




Chapter 8-9 Vocabulary

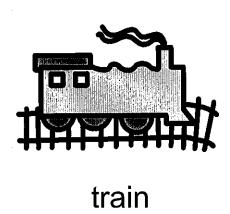


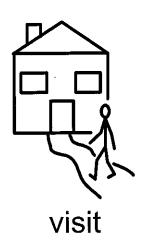




aunt

uncle





Chapter 8-9



Dad joined the army in World War I. He helped workers make guns





for the army. The army sent dad to Oklahoma. Mother decided to take





us to California to visit her family. We were excited about the trip.













We took the train to California It was a long trip. Mother, Anne and





Frank did not feel well. Mother had to cook for us in our cabin. We







could not take baths. Finally, mother's brother, Uncle Fred, joined us on the



train. He was happy to see us. He knew all of our names and gave

us treats.











Our grandparents, Grosie and Papa, worried about us. They said we were

too quiet. One day, we decided not to be quiet. We ran in the sprinkler



wearing our new clothes. After that, Grosie and Papa did not worry about us.

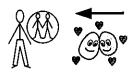












Our aunts and uncles loved to take us places. They gave us treats.

They played with us. Sometimes, they scolded us. Scolding means to tell

us that we did something bad. But after the scolding, they would smile. It

was hard to leave California.









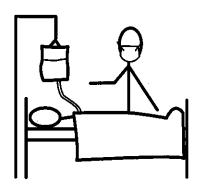
Chapter 10 Vocabulary



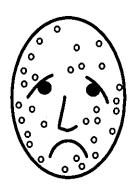
sick



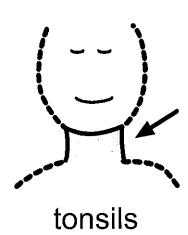
doctor



operation



measles



Chapter 10







Dad did not want his children to get sick. He thought that the best





way to handle sickness was to pretend not to be sick. He thought



being sick was a waste of time.





Dad did not like sickness.







One time, all of us except our sister, Martha, had the measles. Mother

put all of the boys in one bedroom. She put all of the girls in another



bedroom. Dad did not like the quiet in the house. He pretended to have







the measles to make us laugh. The doctor told dad that it made the





town look bad when so many children were sick in one day!





Dad did not like sickness.







The doctor said that we must get our tonsils out. Dad decided to







have the doctor operate in the house. Dad wanted to make a film







about our operations. He wanted to study how doctors work. The doctor







said that dad should have his tonsils out, too. Dad agreed to have





his tonsils out. He wanted to make the film about the operation.





Dad did not like sickness.









Dad had his tonsils out after our operations. He was sick for 2

weeks. Then, the cameraman wrote him a letter. The letter said that the



films of the operations did not work. He made a mistake with the camera.





He said that he quit dad's business. Dad was mad. The only reason



he had his tonsils out was to make the films!



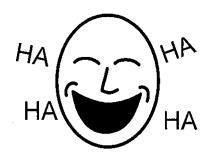


Dad did not like sickness.

Chapter 11-12 Vocabulary



vacation



laugh



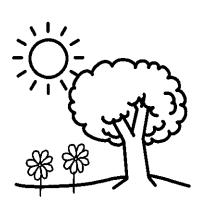
lighthouse



cottage



shoe



summer

Chapter 11-12





We went to Nantucket, Massachusetts in the summer. Dad bought a







cottage and 2 old lighthouses for us to stay in. Dad called it the



shoe. He said that it reminded him of the nursery rhyme of the





old woman in the shoe with all of her children.







Dad loved to take us on vacation.





Dad taught all of us how to swim in the ocean. The only person who



did not swim was mother. When she went into the water, she sank.



Dad did not understand why she could not swim. He said it was against



the laws of science to sink in the water. Mother enjoyed watching us in

the water.







Dad loved to take us on vacation.







One summer, dad wanted to teach us the Morse code. The Morse

code is a way to send messages using dots and lines. He wrote the







code all over the cottage to help us learn. Other vacationers wanted to





see the code and our big family. Dad sold tickets to take them









through the cottage as a joke. This made mother angry. Dad said





that he was sorry. Then, mother laughed too.







Dad loved to take us on vacation.







Another summer, dad bought an old sailboat for us to use. He taught

us to sail. First, we pretended to sail with the boat still on land. Then,



we took it on the water. Dad was the captain and we were his



sailors. He loved to yell orders at us. One time, he yelled at us so



much that we all jumped into the water and left him alone. Dad



pretended to be mad. But he laughed with us.

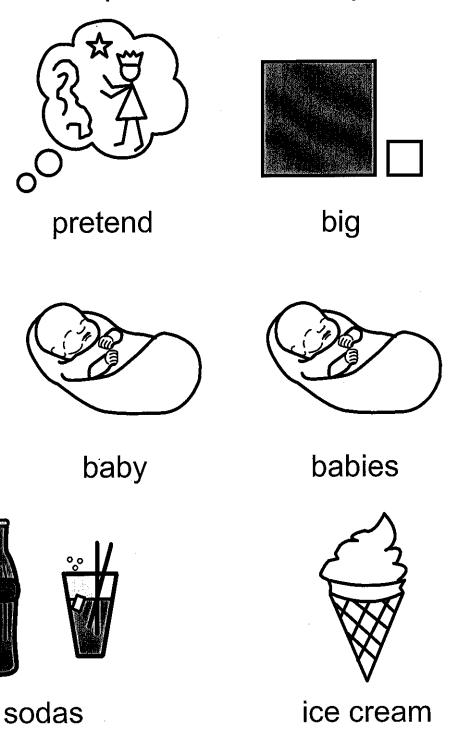






Dad loved to take us on vacation.

Chapter 13-14-15-16 Vocabulary



Chapter 13-14-15-16







Dad loved to show his family to people. He would whistle for us to

line up. Then, he would introduce us to our visitors. Before they left, he





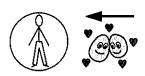
would tell mother to bring out the newest baby. He would say, "Here is

our latest model".











Dad loved to take pictures of the family. He thought he knew how to

take pictures with the camera. But, he put too much powder in the camera



to make the flash. Usually, it would make such a large noise and







big flash that all of the babies would cry. Our family pictures did not

look happy. Then, a real photographer would come to the house. He would



ask why the babies cried when they saw the flash!











Dad tried to teach us good table manners. Table manners are the



manners you use when you are eating. Sometimes, dad would burp at

the table. Then, he would say to one of us, "I am not in the mood for





an organ recital". This was dad's way of making a joke about the



burp. Dad tried to make it look like one of us burped instead of him!





Mother would give dad a funny look.







We had fun in our big family.



One time, a young man ate dinner with us. Our little brother, Jackie,

burped very loud. Then, Jackie looked at our visitor and said, "I am not in



the mood for an organ recital!" Mother was so embarrassed! First, dad

was mad. He told Jackie to leave the table. Then, he felt bad. He told



Jackie to come back to the table. He told our visitor that Jackie learned

the words about the organ recital from him. He said, "I'm sorry." Then, we



all laughed.









Sometimes, dad took us to the movies. He pretended to be mad if we





asked to stay for a second show. But, he loved to stay for the second



show, too. One night, we did not ask to stay. We pretended to get up



and leave the theater. Dad was surprised. He said that we must stay





for a second show. Then, we went out for sodas and ice cream.











On other nights, we put on shows for mother and dad. We acted like







they did when they took their big family around town. We pretended





to be dad going into a factory. The shows made them laugh. Then,





dad pretended to be mad about staying up too late. He told us to go









to bed so that he and mother could go out for ice cream and soda.

But, he took all of us out for treats.



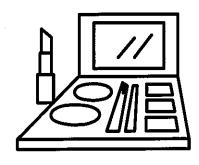




Chapter 17-18 Vocabulary



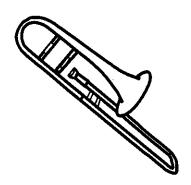
hair



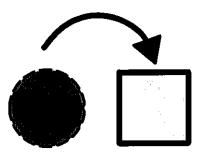
make-up



music



jazz



change

Chapter 17--18







Soon, hair styles and clothes began to change. It was hard to keep



the rules for the oldest girls. They wanted to have short hair. They

wanted to wear shorter skirts. They wanted to wear silk stockings. First,







mother and dad said, "no." Then, they changed the

rules.













Our older sisters wanted to wear make-up. Dad and mother said that







respectable girls did not wear makeup. Dad called wearing make-up



"painting". He would not have any painted girls in his house! Dad said



that he would send the girls to a convent if they tried to wear make-up,

short skirts, or stockings. A convent is a place where girls went to





become nuns in the Catholic church. It was hard for mother and dad

to see their girls grow up.













Music was changing, too. Jazz was popular with young people. Dad







and mother did not like jazz. But, we played jazz on our



record players. Dad would shake his head.









Then, our sister, Anne, wanted to go on a date with a boy. Dad said



she could go, but he had to come along. Dad said they must ride in





his car. Anne was not happy, but she wanted to go out. When dad





tried to start his car, the engine would not work. Anne and her date







went out without dad. They rode in her date's car. Later, dad went



out on other dates with our sisters.







Sometimes, our little brothers played tricks on the boys who came to date





their big sisters. They found a poem that one boy wrote to their sister.



When the boy came to the house, our little brothers hid in a corner

and sang the poem out loud to the boy. The boy was embarrassed and

went home.







One boy was caught spying on our older sister. He climbed the tree by



the house. Then, the younger children formed a circle around the bottom of

the tree. They acted as if they were going to burn it down! The boy was



scared. They let him get down and go away. Dad was away on a



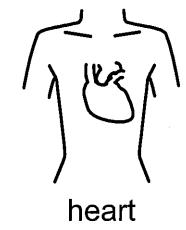


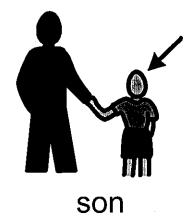
business trip, but he would have been proud of his children!



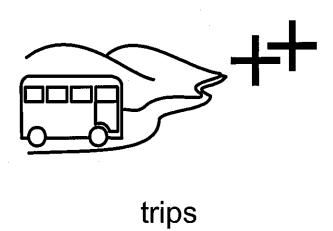


Chapter 19 Vocabulary









Chapter 19







None of us children knew it, but dad had a bad heart. He was



thinner. He joked that he could see his feet after 25 years. His hands

would shake and his face was pale. Pale means it had no color. He





could not play with his sons for very long. Dad tried to act the

same, but he was getting older.







Our family changed forever.









The doctor told dad that he should stop working. He told dad







that he would have a heart attack. A heart attack is when the heart







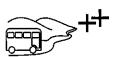
stops. Dad said that he would not stop. He said that he was too





busy. Mother and dad had more business than they ever had before.





Dad was still going on business trips.







Our family changed forever.



One day, dad walked to the train station to go on a business trip. He



called home to tell mother an idea that he had for the business. He had





a heart attack when he was on the phone. Dad died that day.







Our family changed forever.



Mother said that we would have to work together to pay the bills. Her





family wanted us to come to California. But, mother wanted to carry on





dad's business for him. She went on the business trips now. We



helped with the chores at home. Mother was sad, but stronger now. We



were sad, too. But we knew how to take care of ourselves. Dad had



been a good teacher.





Our family changed forever.

48



The End