Family Quilts

Writing prompt inspired by James Ransome

Quilts are a recurring theme in illustrator James Ransome’s children’s books, from a charming folk art ABCs (Quilt Alphabet) to the story of an African American girl’s escape from slavery (Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt).

Quilts symbolize comfort and home — and they can weave a story through imagery, color, and pattern.

Imagine a quilt that tells your family’s story. What colors, patterns, and images would it have, and why?

You can use the simple 9-square template or border template on the next pages as a starting point for your quilt, or make your own pattern.

Write 4 or 5 sentences explaining the story of your family quilt.