

**3rd Grade Curriculum Guide Book Summary**

**Book title: All the Places to Love**

**Author:** Patricia MacLachlan

**Main characters:** Eli, Grandmother, Grandfather, Mama, Papa, Sylvie

**Executive summary:** Eli grows up with the love of his family and a special connection to the land that they live on

**Detailed summary**: On the day that Eli was born, his grandmother put him in a blanket that was made from the wool of her sheep. She held him up to a window so he could see all the places on his home farm that he could love. Eli’s grandfather carved his name into the rafters of the barn, next to his grandparents’ and parents’ names.

As Eli grew he discovered the places that were the ones his Mama, Papa, grandmother and grandfather loved most. When he was very young, his mother put him on her shoulders and they walked across the meadow. Eli could see the sheep grazing and the dogs running through the tall grass.

When he was a bit older, Eli would help his Papa plow the field. Papa loved the land and the soil that grew the crops. Eli’s grandmother loved the river best. She would sail boats made from bark down the River to Eli with messages that said, “I love you, Eli.”

As a young boy, Eli explored the river and the land. He was aware of the wildlife and vegetation around him.

Continued on Back

**All the Places to Love*,*** Page 2

The place Eli’s Mama loved best was high on a hill, where she would pick blueberries and watch the sun rise on one side and set on the other.

Eli’s grandfather had lived in the city and by the sea, but now he loved the barn the most. He loved the sweet-smells and the sound of cows chewing softly.

One day, some years after Eli was born, he waited in the barn with his grandfather until his grandmother held up his newborn baby sister, wrapped in a blanket made from their sheep’s wool. This time it is the name Sylvie that is carved on the rafter in the barn. Eli is happy at the birth of his sister. One day he will show her the place on the farm that he loves most − the marsh, where the ducklings swim along peacefully with their mother.