

Your World, My World

Lesson plan 5: Exploring family

Age group: 4 - 7

Aims:

To explore and celebrate similarities and differences in families.

To encourage children to appreciate how family members care for each other.

What to do:

Note: This activity may be a sensitive area for children from difficult, broken or insecure families, and therefore needs to be handled carefully. Encourage an acceptance in the class for whatever type of family a child chooses to describe.

Preparation: before carrying out this activity, ask children to bring in photos of their families (or drawings) to show the class. They will also need a small photo of themselves to cut up. Alternatively, a disposable camera could be used to take photos of all the children.

You will need:

- photos of the children's families (see above);
- photos of the children (see above);
- a copy of **Muluken's story** (below);
- all the photos from the **photo gallery** except for number 13 (in Power Point), with **captions** (below), divided into three sets: Set A: photos 1-6; Set B: photos 11, 14, and 20; Set C: the remaining photos;
- one lolly stick for each child;
- a range of collage material;
- card, glue and scissors;
- blutak.

Ask the children to show their family photos or drawings to the class. Talk about the different kinds of family that exist and explain that they are going to be finding out about Muluken's family.

Read out Muluken's story. As you read the story, hold up the appropriate photos (Set A) and then pin these to the wall.

Talk about Muluken's family and what it means to her. Draw attention to the fact that she lives in a compound, with all her relatives close by. Ask children to think about the ways in which members of her family help each other (fetching water and firewood, cooking food, giving

each other cuddles etc.). What are the similarities in children's own families? Most children in the class will probably live in a 'nuclear' or a single parent family, but explore which other relatives or carers might be involved, or who might get together with them on special occasions, such as Christmas or New Year.

Now look at the photos in Set B, (11, 14, and 20). Using the background information, talk a little about each of the other children's families. Cidinha lives with her mum and dad and five brothers and sisters. Sasha lives with his mum, granny, brother and sister. His stepfather is often working away from home. Shakeel lives with his mum and dad, and his brother and sister.

Curriculum links:

England	Scotland	Wales
<p>Citizenship/PSHE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That they belong to various groups and communities, such as family and school. - To identify and respect the differences and similarities between people. - That family and friends care for each other. <p>English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaking and listening. - Group discussion and interaction. <p>Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographical enquiry. 	<p>Environmental Studies, Social subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People in society - identify some of the ways that family, friends and school meet their needs. - Developing informed attitudes - cultural and social diversity; the part they can play in caring for other members of society. <p>PSD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpersonal relationships - demonstrate an awareness of family relationships. <p>English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listening and talking in groups; listening in order to respond to texts. 	<p>PSE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That they belong to various groups and communities, such as family and school. - To identify and respect the differences and similarities between people. - That family and friends care for each other. <p>English:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaking and listening. - Group discussion and interaction. <p>Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographical enquiry.

Muluken's story



Muluken - Photo: Rhodri Jones/Oxfam

My name's Muluken and I'm seven years old. I live in a village called Gerba Sefer which is high in the mountains in Ethiopia. My house is made of earth and wood and there are trees all around. (Photo 1)

Near my house is a canyon. I go there with my sister or friends. We climb on the rocks and I can see for miles around. We watch the monkeys that live up there.

I live with my family all around me, in a group of houses called a compound. I live with my dad, my older sister Esketsenaf and my younger sister Mekdes. My grandmother also lives with us. (Photo 2) She's special because she does all the cooking and everything for us in the house. My mum works as a teacher in a school which is 20 kilometres away. It is difficult to travel so far every day, so she comes home at weekends and in the holidays. My uncle and his family live in the same compound. I see them every day. Sometimes my uncle lets me ride his mule. My cousin Zebawork is like another big sister. Another special person who lives near my house is the village elder. He is old and wise and kind to us children.

In my village it's easy to find someone to join in my games. (Photo 5) My favourite game is playing 'shop'. We also play a game called Segne maksegno. This means Monday and Tuesday and it is a sort of hopscotch.

I started school this year. After breakfast, I walk to school every day with my sister. It takes about 15 minutes. I go to school in the mornings from 7.30 to 12.30. In the afternoons a whole new group of children come to school. That's because the classrooms would be too small to hold all of us children together. Many children don't come to school all the time. That's because most families here are farmers. When it is time to plough the land or harvest, lots of children are needed to help out at home.

There's no running water in my house so one of my jobs is to fetch clean water from a pump and carry it back home. We always have to wash our hands before we eat (Photo 4) . There's no electricity so we use paraffin lamps at night and cook over a wood fire. Another of my jobs is to collect firewood.

Before I go to bed I like to draw. When my mum is home, I cuddle up with her to sleep, while she has a cup of tea. (Photo 6)

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Worksheet: Captions for photos

1. Muluken, who lives in Gerba Sefer village in Ethiopia.
2. Muluken and her family.
3. Muluken shares breakfast with her sister.
4. Muluken and her sister wash their faces and hands before breakfast.
5. Muluken and her friends playing shop.
4. Muluken sleeps on her mother's lap.
7. Cidinha in her hammock.
8. Cidinha helps out at home by hanging out the washing.
9. Cidinha helps her mother break babassu nuts.
10. Cidinha and her friends play a skipping game.
11. Cidinha's family and neighbours watch TV while they have dinner.
12. Cidinha dances with her friends.
13. Sasha is all dressed up for the winter.

14. Every morning Sasha helps to dress his younger sister, Yulya.
15. Sasha helps with the cooking.
16. Sasha at school.
17. Every two days, Sasha and his brother Vanya collect water from the well.
18. Sasha inside the house that he made out of snow.
19. Shakeel's mum helps him get ready for school.
20. Shakeel and his family have breakfast.
21. Shakeel's favourite lesson is craft.
22. Shakeel plays football during break time.
23. Shakeel's special job is feeding the goats.
24. By nine o'clock Shakeel is in bed.