

Reception

Families

Lesson 3

Learning Intention

To recognise that all families are different

Learning Outcomes

Identify different members of the family

Understand how members of a family can help each other

Resources

Elephant glove puppet or toy

The Family Book, Todd Parr

[Families pictures](#)

Paper and drawing materials

Activities

1. Group Agreement

In a circle, ask the group how we need to behave when we work in a circle, i.e. look at and listen to the person who is speaking, put your hand up to talk and to sit with your legs crossed.

2. Feeling Faces

Repeat the feeling faces game from previous sessions, this time using the feelings scared, excited and relaxed.

3. Storytime - Sports Day

Use the elephant puppet to tell a simple story about family difference. An example text is below. (Alternatively read the *Family Book* by Todd Parr as described in the additional activities section).

- Ezza woke up and thought 'Oh no. I've got that funny feeling in my tummy again' Today was Ezza's first sports day at school.
- Ezza didn't want the whole family to come and watch. They always made such a noise trumpeting and stomping their feet. Little Eni would be crying and Ettie and Erme were bound to have a fight. 'I bet all the other animals have nice quiet families'.
- The family were very excited to be going to Ezzas new school but Ezza's trunk was down all the way.
- When they arrived Ezza looked around the playground and smiled. All the families looked so different. Some were big and noisy, some were small, some had different animals looking after them and some had only one animal with them.
- Ezza felt happy and gave Grandma and Grandpa a big hug. Then ran off to find Heckle and practice the three-legged race.

After the story ask questions to explore the feelings in the story: How did Ezza feel about all the family coming to the school? How was the family feeling about coming to watch Ezza? Were all of the families the same? How were they different?

4. All Families Are Different

In groups, ask the class to think of as many different family members as possible. Give each group a [Families picture](#) to help them. Collect suggestions from the whole class and record on the board.

5. Family Drawings

At tables, give each child a piece of paper and a pencil and ask them to draw a picture of a family; it can be their own family or one of the families shown on the whiteboard. Circulate and support individuals as necessary and ask them to think about how the family members they have drawn might help each other at home.

Bring the children back to the carpet and ask them to present their pictures. Ask the children to suggest ideas for how we help each other in our family: washing, dressing, cleaning, eating/preparing meals, playing/reading. What does your family help you with? What do you do to help your family?

6. Review and Close

Summarise the lesson: families can be different in lots of ways: everyone in a family can do things to help each other. Helping each other makes us feel good.

Additional Activities

The Family Book, Todd Parr

Introduce *The Family Book* by Todd Parr. Discuss the content briefly: which members of the family are shown in the first two pages of the book? Give an example of when members of a family might live far from each other. Explain that not every family like to hug each other, some show love in different ways. Discuss what a stepmum or stepdad is. Explain what fostering and adoption are. At the end you could ask the class to put up their hands if they saw a family in the book that was a bit like their family.