

MY RELATIONSHIPS: FAMILIES



Lesson Objectives:

- Children will be given the opportunity to think about personal relationships and who is important in their lives.
- Children will explore a variety of different types of families and understand that not all families are the same.

Key Messages:

Children will have the opportunity to talk about what a family is, what families might do together, as well as looking at the variety of different types of families we have in class; at the things they have in common and differences between them.

Families come in all different shapes and sizes. Some people have big extended families, where they spend time regularly with their aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents. Other families are quite small - no two families are the same but we will all have things in common and things that make our families unique and special.

Closing:

Remember all families are unique and special. It doesn't necessarily matter who lives in our houses with us, but that our home is somewhere we feel safe, cared for and loved. Families may have their own rules or ways of doing things - but they all have things in common too.

CARRYING ON THE CONVERSATION AT HOME:

Take the opportunity to talk about the important people in your family and the different family structures and dynamics you have in place. Most families are a little complicated and chaotic - there is no such thing as a perfect family. Talk about the things you do together as a family.

Ask your child about the other families at school. It is an ideal opportunity to ask about the other families in your child's class - not to be nosey! But to show interest in their friends and class mates and it is an ideal opportunity to talk about issues around diversity and acceptance.

Are there other families like yours? Talk about the similarities and differences between families, because families come in all different shapes and sizes.

All children have questions about whether their family set up is normal and want reassurance. The important thing is a family is a place you feel loved, cared for and safe.



Useful Links:

- Find out more about how and why we talk to children about diverse families.
- check out the books in our library suggestions.