My Family: Writing Practice

First Grade | Writing, Social Studies | 65 minutes | Standards: W.1.5

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Family first! This lesson encourages students to think about families and how diverse families can be.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to describe what they already know about families by thinking and sharing facts about their own families.

Materials and Preparation

- Board
- Markers
- Premade family book (make before lesson)
- Pictures of your students’ families (instruct them to bring them in the day before)
- Crayons and colored pencils
- Pencils
- Books for students to write in (staple multiple pieces of paper together)

Lesson

Introduction (10 minutes)

- The day before your lesson, instruct your students to bring pictures from home that they can paste into a book that they will make.
- Explain to your students that they are going to be discussing families.
- Discuss with your students what family means to them. Potential discussion questions include: How are families a system that works together? How are families the same and how are they different? What do families around the world look like?

Get more lesson plans at www.education.com/lesson-plans/
Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling *(15 minutes)*

- Explain to your students that they will create a book about their families.
- Instruct your students to draw a picture of their families. Have them label the individuals in their drawings.
- Direct your students to draw a picture of their families celebrating something, such as a holiday.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling *(10 minutes)*

- Show your students a premade book about your family.
- Walk the students through some of the pictures. Identify the people in your pictures and explain each individual person’s role in the family.
- Give suggestions to your students about what they could write.

Independent Working Time *(20 minutes)*

- Have your students pick 4 people to write about. Direct your students to think about the roles and responsibilities of the people. Ask them to think about what their families need or want.
- Instruct your students to paste pictures of their families inside their books.
- Offer details and potential examples of family interactions to your students.

Extend

Differentiation

- **Enrichment:** Have these students write a story about an experience that they have had with four of their family members.
- **Support:** Give your students a word bank or sentence starters to write about their families.

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Review

Assessment *(5 minutes)*

- Walk around as your students write about their family members, making sure that they use complete sentences.
- Make sure that your students write how each family member has an important role in the family. Remind them that no two family members are alike!

Review and Closing *(5 minutes)*

- Ask everyone to share their family books.
- After everyone has shared, ask your students to describe how families are different.