

RECEPTION

LESSON 3: Different families

Learning Intention

To recognise that families can look different and that families help and care for each other.

Learning Outcomes (Child facing)

I can spot ways families can be different.

I can name people who are part of a family.

I can say one way families help each other.

Resources

Reception lesson 3 Social Story

Elephant glove puppet or toy

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 worried, excited and proud. Give examples of things that may cause these feelings to support the children with the activity.

3. Storytime - Sports Day

Use the 'Reception lesson 1 Social Story' and the elephant puppet to tell a simple story about family difference.

4. Questions After The Story

How did Ezza feel about all the family coming to the school? Were all the other families the same? How were they different?

RECEPTION. LESSON 3: Different families continued

5. All Families Are Different

In small groups, give children picture sets showing different families. Ask: “What do you notice about these families?” “What makes them the same? What makes them different?”

Encourage simple observations: different numbers of people, different grown-ups, some live with grandparents, some have babies etc.

6. 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 a family from the pictures. 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?

7. 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.