

Families Come in Many Ways





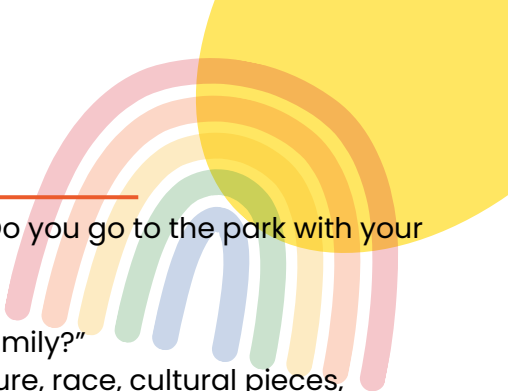
For Educators, Parents, Caregivers:

You will notice there are no words throughout this booklet. Let these images inspire creativity, imagination, and conversation for yourself and the children you are sharing this with. Keep reading below for some suggested prompts and responses.

Suggestions for Engaging

- Let children explore the images.
- They might not even notice the diverse family and instead point out the park or a toy in one of the images, that's ok! Let the children point out their interest and guide the conversation from there.
- If you are using these images with children who may not engage verbally, narrate some things you may be seeing as you go through the images, let them touch, point, etc. to allow them to engage in ways that are true for them.
- Engage with the whole picture and connect to what you know of the child(ren) you are engaging with.

Suggested Prompts



- “These families are at the park. Do you go to the park with your family? What do you do there?”
- “Who do we see in this family?”
- “What do we notice about this family?”
- Point out what you notice, structure, race, cultural pieces, genders. It’s ok to notice differences, and talk about them. Differences make us beautiful!
- Tie it back to you and them! Do any families look like theirs? like yours? Are they doing things that you or them may also do?
- Use different terminology such as mom, dad, parent, auntie, grandma, papa etc. This helps normalize that family members may be called different names!
- What do you think (or feel) about these picture?

Suggested Responses

- Children may not know the dynamic, gender, race, cultural pieces etc. That’s ok! These are perfect entry points to conversation.
- If they ask about the gender and are unsure: Suggest that we don’t always know someone’s gender and that’s ok, they could be a boy, girl, neither, or both!
- If they mention that families are a mom and a dad, that’s ok too! This just may be what they are used to. Use the pictures to ask more questions and expand on critical thinking and language. An example could be: “This family has two dads in it, not a mom and a dad, so maybe some families can have two dads?”
- If they notice that some children are not the same skin tone as their parents, talk about how families can look different from each other, show some examples through the book.
- When children ask questions, respond with more questions, curiosity and openness!

This booklet was put together by Shyanne Favaro (She/Her) BASc., RECE. All images were sources from Canva. Please note that as we have aimed to make these images as inclusive as possible we acknowledge that some may be missing. If you have concerns, further questions, or are looking for more please find us at: www.outontheshelf.com























Who is in your family?





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