



Why are families and long-term, stable relationships important?



Cody has been with her foster family for five years. On her thirteenth birthday, Alana, her foster mother, had a surprise for Cody.

Alana and her wife, Collette, told Cody they would like to adopt her. Alana and Collette already have two children, from Collette's previous marriage. Cody was really happy with the news.

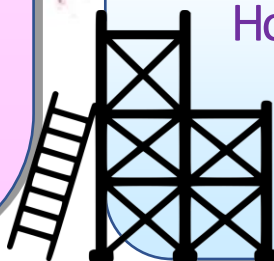
Discuss: Were the group a family already? What difference does this news make?



Scaffolded Starter:

There are many different types of family.
How would you define the word?

I would define the word 'family' as meaning....





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Learning outcomes:

Describe the different types of family and the roles of family members.

Explain why roles and typical families have changed and why we need to learn about different types of families.

New key terms:



Family – A group of close people, usually related, who choose to live together as a unit. There are many different types of family.

Marriage – a traditional, legally recognised union between a couple.

Civil Partnership – a legally recognised, same-sex partnership.



Task One :

When many of us think of a family, we think of a mom, a dad and their kids. However, it has always been the case that families come in all shapes and sizes. This does make it a little harder to describe exactly what a family is, however. So, with a partner, think – what does a group of people need to make them a family?

You can use the images as clues and add more.



What makes a group of people a 'family'?



In order to be a family, I think a group of people must...



Task One ANSWERS:

Here are a few possible ideas you may have discussed.

People who spend a lot of time together as a unit. You may or may not be blood-related.



People who provide or share resources with you (e.g. a house and food).

People who help you with decisions and learning right from wrong.



What makes a group of people a 'family'?



In order to be a family, I think a group of people must...

People who help you with problems (and you can or one day will help them).

A group of people who love and care for each other.

Sex and Relationships.





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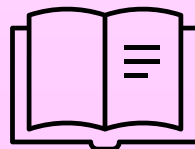


Task Two:

We will now find out more about the different types of families we usually meet in the UK and why our families are so important.

POPCORN READING!

We will take it in turns to read. When you have finished reading a paragraph, say the name of the next person in the class you would like to read. Listen carefully, in case your name is next.



Task Two continued:

We're coming across a lot of new key terminology today, so before we go any further, let's just ensure we all know what the new terms all mean.

Draw a line to match up on your worksheet and we'll go through our answers together in five minutes.

New Key term	Draw a line to match up:	Definition
Marriage		When two people who are not married choose to live together
Cohabitation		When a marriage ends, and two people agree to separate
Committed Relationship		When two people vow (promise) to commit to each other and join to form a legal union
Civil Partnership		When two people agree to commit to each other in some way
Divorce		A legally recognised relationship between two people that is similar to marriage.

ANSWERS:

Now be sure to correct any answers you didn't get right first time.

New Key term	Draw a line to match up:	Definition
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Task Two Continued:

Now complete the questions on page two of your information pack. We'll discuss our ideas as a class in ten minutes:

What's the difference between an adopted family and a foster family?

Explain three reasons why families are important.

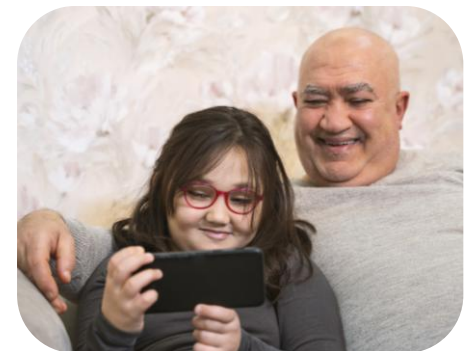
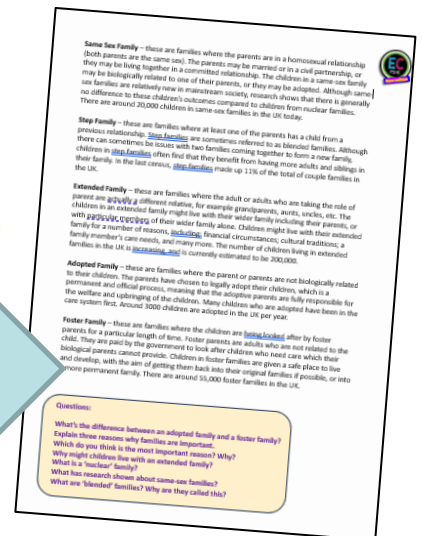
Which do you think is the most important reason? Why?

Why might children live with an extended family?

What is a 'nuclear' family?

What has research shown about same-sex families?

What are 'blended' families? Why are they called this?



Task Three:

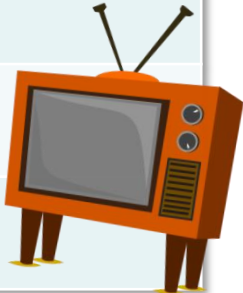
Watch the clip below together as a class.

As you watch the clips, note down as many ideas as you can on both side of the columns. We'll go through the answers together afterwards.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQIGiE5vSSM>



What is different about the typical 1950s family?	What similarities are there with families today? Think about your own if you like.



ANSWERS:



Let's go through the answers together now. You may have found more you can add.

What is different about the typical 1950s family?

They are dressing up for an evening dinner – the women do this especially for the men in the family.

'Mother is needed in the kitchen' – it's taken for granted the mother will be the one cooking.

Everyone seems to tip-toes around the dad (save bad news for another time).

It's much more formal – e.g. pulling out chairs for the mom, praying before eating, father serving, use of napkins.

There are a lot of rules.

What similarities are there with families today? Think about your own if you like.

The kids still have homework to do.

Brothers and sisters still help out with childcare.

They love each other.

Brother and sister still get annoyed with each other.

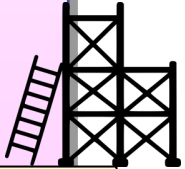
They all enjoy spending time together (most of the time).



Task Four:



Male role	Female role	Both
Cooking the dinner	Washing my clothes	Helping me with my maths homework
Taking me shopping	Putting the bins out	Taking me to the doctors
Paying the bills		Showing me how to paint my nails
		Mending my bike



In pairs, decide whether the statements whether the tasks above should be designated to a male or a female adult in a family today. **Answers are behind this box.**

Extended Literacy: Which statements do you think would change if it was the 1950s? What has caused this change in attitudes and what benefits has this had for society, so you think?

Use the scaffolding in PSHE sheet if you wish (handout).



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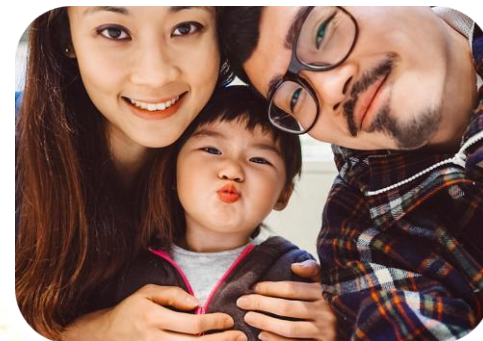


Task Five:

Now we know why families are so important, let's explore why stable, long-term relationships are so important, especially for children.

Option one: Draw snapshots of family photos which demonstrate the reasons why stability is important, underneath each reason in the yellow boxes.

Option two: Complete the yellow boxes explaining why stability is important. Then if you have time, you can also draw the snapshots.



Love and Support: When parents have a good relationship, they can show their children lots of love and support. Children feel safe and cared for when they know their parents love each other.	Less stress, more safety and security: When there is stability in the family, there's less fighting and arguing between parents. Stable relationships provide a sense of security.	Communication: Good relationships help parents communicate better with each other. When parents can talk openly and calmly, they can also listen to what their kids have to say.
Memories: Children make memories in a loving family. These memories last a lifetime and can make them feel loved even when they grow up.	Role Models: When parents have a good relationship, they become good role models for their children. Kids learn how to be kind, respectful, and caring by watching their parents.	Learning to Love: Parents who love each other teach their children how to love and care for others. This helps kids build strong and healthy relationships when they grow up.



Use the scaffolding in PSHE sheet if you wish (handout).



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Review Part One:

If you completed option one then ensure you add in any additional detail that you missed. If you completed option two, then let's have some volunteers to come and share their photo snapshots on the board.

Love and Support: When parents have a good relationship, they can show their children lots of love and support. Children feel safe and cared for when they know their parents love each other.

Less stress, more safety and security: When there is stability in the family, there's less fighting and arguing between parents. Stable relationships provide a sense of security.

Communication: Good relationships help parents communicate better with each other. When parents can talk openly and calmly, they can also listen to what their kids have to say



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Review Part Two:

If you completed option one then ensure you add in any additional detail that you missed. If you completed option two, then let's have some volunteers to come and share their photo snapshots on the board.

Happy Memories: Children make happy memories in a loving family. These memories last a lifetime and can make them feel loved even when they grow up.

Role Models: When parents have a good relationship, they become good role models for their children. Kids learn how to be kind, respectful, and caring by watching their parents.

Learning to Love: Parents who love each other teach their children how to love and care for others. This helps kids build strong and healthy relationships when they grow up.



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Plenary: Instant-gram

Based on today's learning and activities, spend a few minutes now creating an 'Instant-gram' update, drawing in and labelling any kind of successful family.

The example MUST be labelled to show what makes the family successful. It can be any of the different types of families we explored today.

Your teacher will ask for a few volunteers to talk through their updates in ten minutes.



Starting sentences about importance:

It's essential that we...
It's always important to realise...
Essentially, we must all take note of...
Critically....

Starting sentences for two-sided arguments:

We must consider both sides when...
On the one hand...
One point of view might be..
There are two opposing viewpoints on this subject..

Starting sentences about opinion:

My personal opinion on this matter is...
It may be controversial, but I believe...
My opinion is based on two factors....

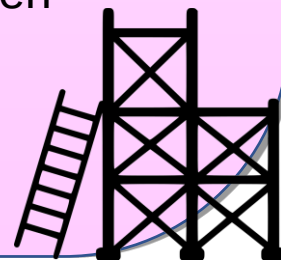
Useful conjunctives:

Additionally
Furthermore
Subsequently
Similarly
In contrast
Nonetheless
However

Complete second part of argument, or second paragraph of PSHE extended writing piece.

Concluding extended writing:

In conclusion...
When all has been considered..
Therefore as expressed...
In consideration of all the above..
Finally, when all has been considered...
Overall I would state...





Signposting support:

Useful helplines and charities:

[Teen Line | Teens Support hotline - Connect, talk, get help!](#) Teen Line's highly trained teen listeners provide support, resources and hope to any teen who is struggling.

[Family Lives](#) – visit the website or call 0808 800 2222 for support for families.

[Childline](#). Support for people under 19 in the UK. Call: 0800 11 11

[Young Minds](#). Child and adolescent mental health charity. Call: 0808 802 5544



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