# MY FAMILY, YOUR FAMILY



# **CFE 3273V**

OPEN CAPTIONED SUNBURST COMMUNICATIONS 1994

Grade Levels: K-4

16 minutes

### **DESCRIPTION**

Who makes up a family? Do they all live together in the same house? How are families different? Simple, clear explanations answer these and other questions. Explores, in easy terms, stepfamilies and other basic problem areas children may have. Encourages children to express their feelings to an older person.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

- To define the term *family*.
- To illustrate and examine the different types of families.
- To emphasize the worth of each type of family and family member.
- To encourage open communications about feelings to other family members.

#### **BEFORE SHOWING**

- 1. Read the CAPTION SCRIPT to determine unfamiliar vocabulary and language concepts.
- 2. Present the term *family* and discuss its definition. Record suggested words and phrases.

#### **DURING SHOWING**

- 1. View the video more than once, with one showing uninterrupted.
- 2. Pause after the classroom discussion segment. Compare the responses to those recorded in BEFORE SHOWING. Include:
  - a. Pets as family members
  - b. Stepparents as family members
  - c. Big families with many children
  - d. Small families with few children
  - e. Family members who have moved out
  - f. Extended family members such as cousins, grandparents, aunts
- 3. Pause after Sam's family segment. Discuss the on-screen questions:

- a. Can pets be counted as family?
- b. Can you count people who live in different places?
- 4. Pause after Cindy's family segment. Discuss the on-screen questions:
  - a. What can Cindy say to her mother?
  - b. How could telling your feelings help you get along better in your family?
- 5. Pause after Jeremy's family segment. Relate how telling his feelings to his dad helped Jeremy.

#### **AFTER SHOWING**

#### Discussion Items and Questions

- 1. Identify the different types of families. Compare and discuss different types of families.
- 2. Identify family members including those who are extended family. Determine each member's role and importance to the family unit. Using the responses, create a chart or diagram.
- 3. Compare a nuclear family with an extended family.
- 4. Discuss how spending time with parents who live in different homes might be a positive or a negative experience.
- 5. Identify and discuss problem solving techniques used to meet family members' needs.
- 6. Determine what role communication plays in good family-living situations.
- 7. Name and discuss some ways Mom could help Cindy feel less excluded in her new family situation.
- 8. Decide why it is important for children to spend time with both parents even after a divorce.

#### **Applications and Activities**

- 1. Create a web of information expanding the term *family*.
- 2. Make personal collages of pictures of family members, with self-portraits in the center. Label each

family member. Display and entitle "Your Family, My Family."

- 3. Role-play family situations. Include:
  - a. Feelings of unfair treatment
  - b. An only child family outing
  - c. A large family at the dinner table
  - d. A divorced family weekend
  - e. An extended family picnic
  - f. A blended or stepfamily birthday party
- 4. Play the ball game like Emily and her friends did. Name personal family members.
- 5. Observe pictures or photos of families doing different things together. Interpret family member roles and relationships.
- 6. Play "What's My Line?" Role-play different family members as mystery guests who sign in, out of the panel's sight. The panel questions the guest, asking only yes or no questions, such as:
  - a. "Mystery guest, are you a male?"
  - b. "Do you go to school, Mystery Guest?"
  - c. "Are you married, Mystery Guest?"
  - d. "Mystery Guest, do you live in the same house with your parents?"
  - e. "Mystery Guest, are you an uncle?"
- 7. Write a story about an activity the whole family likes to do together.
- 8. Create a family album. Draw pictures of family members and label each picture.
- 9. Write a sentence telling a significant contribution personally made to the family. Illustrate it.
- 10. Draw a picture of a personal family member who helps talk about problems. Write a sentence or two explaining how this family member helps with problems.

#### **WEBSITES**

Explore the Internet to discover sites related to this topic. Check the CFV website for related information (http://www.cfv.org).

## **CAPTION SCRIPT**

Following are the captions as they appear on the video. Teachers are encouraged to read the script prior to viewing the video for pertinent vocabulary, to discover language patterns within the captions, or to determine content for introduction or review. Enlarged copies may be given to students as a language exercise.

Whether your family were playing a game is big or small about families.

Mother, Father, My name is Emily cousins, and brothers

 $\mbox{and here is my family:} \label{eq:main_constraint}$  The size doesn't really

matter at all Father.

As long as it's people Mother.

who care for each other

Your family
Muffin.
My family

Hey, you can't count We're all different, your cat!

as you can see

It's not human.

My family

Yes, I can!

Your family

She lives with us

A family is and we love her, a good thing to be! so why not?

How many different

kinds of families are there? Oh, all right.

Many kinds-- Then I can count

big families, small families,

A parakeet isn't like a cat.

my parakeet!

with both
a mom and a dad,

With only

So he's family--

a mom or only a dad...
just like Muffin.
even mixed-up together.

Come on, Cindy, take your turn. One day Sam, Emily,

Jeremy and Cindy
My name is Cindy
and here is my family.

Mother. like Mother, Father and kids.

Stepmother. And their pets.

What's a stepmother? It could be a lot of kids-My dad's new wife. like we have five kids.

Stepfather.... Or a few.

You're gonna take forever! Does everyone have to live in the same house?

[bell ringing]

No, because my dad lives
Good thing the bell rang. in a different house.

It would take all day

I have a sister in college.

counting your stepmother She's not in my house, and everybody. but she is still my sister.

(Cindy) I can count people
Well, you counted
your parakeet! who don't live

in my house?
Sam counted his parakeet

as family. My family would be bigger.

Is that okay?

Like cousins, right?

Hmm. Well...

(female narrator)
Sam felt better
Sounds like a good time
after the class talked.

Sounds like a good time after the class talked.

to talk about He thought

what makes a family. his family was smallest.

Everyone agrees Then he added

Sam can count his parakeet? his grandparents,
Aunt Ruth and cousins.
Right.

Right. He hurried home to talk to his mother.

And Emily can count her cat?

Guess what I learned today? Right.

Right. Right. What?

And Cindy can count her stepmother and stepfather. Our family is more than you, me and Dad.

So...what makes a family? Right.

I always thought Families don't have it was the people to live together.

who live together in a house; Right! We have a big family.

I forget them all.

Let's pull out all our pictures

and see who our family is.

Even Uncle Bob in New Jersey?

Even Uncle Bob.

Let's go see what we can find.

Here's your cousins...

Brenda...

Here's Uncle Bob...

Aunt Ruth...

Your little cousin...

Wow! There are lots of people.

Whether your family is big or small

Mother, Father,

cousins, and brothers

The size doesn't

really matter at all

As long as it's people who care for each other

Your family
My family

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We're all different, as you can see

My family

Your family
A family is

a good thing to be!

So what is a family?

What do you think?

Think about these questions

then talk about them.

Cindy's family has had a lot of changes.

First there was Cindy, her mom and dad.

Then her mom and dad got a divorce.

They stopped being married anymore.

Then her mother married someone else.

Cindy liked

her new stepfather Bob.

Bob had two older sons,

Eric and Mark.

It was fun

having big brothers.

Then, the most

exciting thing happened--

her mother and Bob had a baby!

She thought a baby would be wonderful,

especially a baby sister.

But when Amy moved into Cindy's room,

that wasn't so great.

Sometimes, Amy woke Cindy up at night.

During the daytime,

Cindy never had her room to herself.

When her stepbrothers came on weekends and vacations,

the family did things

Eric and Mark wanted to do.

Cindy never got

She began to feel she wasn't very important.

[baby crying]

Oh, dear--I was hoping

Amy would take a longer nap.

I have so much to do.

Mom. Could you wash this apple, please?

Cindy, would you go talk to her?

But, Mom!

Emily's waiting for me.

You can be a little late.

Please, just go do it and don't argue.

[thinking] She doesn't care

about me anymore.

It's always Amy this, Amy that,

and every weekend Eric and Mark...

Hey, Sis, think fast!

I'm not your sister!

Okay, okay. Take it easy.

What's wrong?

Every time

you come here, we always do the dumb stuff

you and Mark want.

I always have to help with Amy,

and Mom doesn't

pay attention to me.

Sounds bad!

Before, you were alone with Mom.

Suddenly you have Dad, Mark and me around.

And now Amy!

No wonder you feel sort of left out.

But you know,

when you feel sad and left out,

tell people--

like you're doing now.

And once people know, sometimes they can help.

You know how grownups say,

"Now use your words..."

You mean tell Mom

when I'm feeling

left out?

Sure. She wants to know

so she can help you feel better.

And when Mark and I get too bossy,

just tell us.

I'll try. Thanks, Eric.

It's not so bad having a brother!

Hey, I forgot

to go to Emily's house.

Bye!

Some families change to Emily's birthday party--

Some have sisters, Oh, Jeremy--that sounds and some have stepbrothers like so much fun.

The kind doesn't matter
But Saturday,
you and Susan
Whatever the name
will be at Dad's.

As long as it's people who

Can't we change it, just this once?

care for each other

I don't see how.

Your family

I can't change
My family my business trip this weekend.

We're all different, I wish you and Dad as you can see never got divorced.

My family Oh, Sweetie,
Your family I know it's really

hard sometimes. A family is

a good thing to be! Daddy and I don't live together anymore, It's not easy to bring

but we both want to be parts of different families together but we both want to be with you and Susan.

You go there on weekends to make a new family to keep it fair.

without someone It's not fair to me! getting hurt feelings.

Jeremy is having a problem But Cindy learned something

that often happens

very important from Eric... when parents divorce.

Think about these questions

His mother and father
and then talk about them. live in different towns now.

Jeremy was very excited. They both love

Jeremy and Susan
He got a letter.

and they want time with them. That didn't happen very often.

At first it worked out, But even more exciting,

but now Jeremy is feeling sad it was an invitation

because he's never

with his school friends.

(Susan)

I'm going to Peggy's.

(Dad)

Okay. See you later.

Whoa!

What's wrong, Jeremy?

Emily is having

her birthday party tomorrow.

There will be a pirate treasure hunt.

Everyone is going!

It's not fair!

So you wish you could be there?

Sort of.

I hate going back and forth all the time.

Why can't you come back home?

We've already explained it.

We're not happy

living together.

Yeah, I know.

You still love us and want it to be fair.

But it isn't fair to you, right?

I could take you

to the party tomorrow--

I already told Emily I couldn't come.

She'd be glad if

you said you could.

Tonight we can buy her a present. You mean it?

Why not?

And later, let's talk to Mom

about ways we can make it easier for you.

I thought the divorce was like a law.

Not really.

We just want the best for everyone.

If that's not good

for you, we'll make changes.

Okay?

Okay!

(narrator)

Sometimes it's hard to understand things,

like Jeremy thinking he was stuck.

It's good to talk about how we feel

then work out what's best for everyone.

So what is a family?

Jeremy has one kind,

and Emily has another.

Cindy's and Sam's family

are different.

Some families all live together

in one house,

and parts of some families

live in different places.

Your family,

my family--they're all different,

but they're all families.

Your family

My family

We're all different, as you can see

My family

Your family

A family is a good thing to be!

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