

Lesson Plan

Family Facts

Series: All Families

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students practice finding key details and comprehending new words in an online article.

Supplies

- One or more books in the All Families series
- “What Makes a Family?” article from the Wonderopolis website: <https://wonderopolis.org/wonder/What-Makes-a-Family>
- What Makes a Family? Guided Reading Assignment (attached)
- Computers or tablets the students can use
- Pencils

Before the Activity

Print out one What Makes a Family? GRA for each student.

Activity

Each family looks different. But at the core of each family is people that care about one another. The All Families series explores several different kinds of families. Today, students will read an article on the Wonderopolis website that gives more information about the various ways people find and form families. Make sure each student has access to a computer or tablet. Give each student a copy of the GRA. Students should read the Wonderopolis article. Then they should answer the questions on Part I of the GRA. Each answer should use complete sentences.

Next, students should find three vocabulary words from the article that they are unfamiliar with. The vocabulary words are highlighted in yellow. Students can hover over each word to see its definition. Students should fill out Part II of the GRA based on these words.

Evaluation

Collect each student's GRA at the end of class. Using the attached answer key, give each student up to 9 points:

- 1 point for each question in Part I they answered correctly
- 1 point for using complete sentences in the Part I answers
- 1 point for each vocab word and definition listed in Part II

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1, 3.5), and the National Council for the Social Studies standard 1.

What Makes a Family?

Guided Reading Assignment

Part I. Answer the following questions after reading the Wonderopolis article. Remember to use complete sentences.

1. According to the online article, what do families have in common?
2. According to this article, what kinds of families can have two sets of parents?
3. According to this article, why might some parents foster children?
4. According to this article, what are blended families?
5. According to this article, what people may be part of a family?

Part II. Find three vocabulary words from the article that were new to you. Write these words and their definitions.

1. Word:

Definition:

2. Word:

Definition:

3. Word:

Definition:

What Makes a Family?

Guided Reading Assignment **Answer Key**

Part I. Answer the following questions after reading the Wonderopolis article. Remember to use complete sentences.

1. According to the online article, what do families have in common?

Families are closely bound by their love and concern for one another.

2. According to this article, what kinds of families can have two sets of parents?

Divorced or separated families may have two sets of parents.

3. According to this article, why might some parents foster children?

Biological parents cannot care for the children. Foster parents care for the children instead.

4. According to this article, what are blended families?

Blended families are when adults who already have children marry and join their families together.

5. According to this article, what people may be part of a family?

Biological parents and children, good friends, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and godparents can be part of families.

Part II. Find three vocabulary words from the article that were new to you. Write these words and their definitions.

1. Word: **Answers will vary.**

Definition:

2. Word:

Definition:

3. Word:

Definition: