

Families

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Diversity, Family, Photography

Book Brief: *Families* is a nonfiction book that celebrates the diversity and individuality of contemporary families through photographs and simple text.

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Photographs:
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TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students look at the cover of the book and share what they see. Ask “Who are the people on the cover? What makes you think that? What are they doing? What do you think this book is about?” After some discussion, read the title of the book.

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and ask, “What is something you notice about the pictures in this book?” Have students share about who and what they see. Ask, “What kinds of pictures do you notice in this book?” Compare the photographs in

this book to illustrations in another book you’ve read recently. Ask, “Why do you think the author used photos instead of drawings for this book?”

Vocabulary: Review these family words using the Picture Vocabulary Cards: *family, mom/mommy, dad/daddy, grandpa, grandma, son, daughter, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, cousin*. Ask students if they know of words in their home language(s) that mean the same thing as these words.

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about what the author wants to teach us about different kinds of families.”



WHILE WE READ

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (LEVELS 1-4)

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** “Who do you think the people are in this picture? What do you see that makes you think that?”
- **Level 2:** “What is the family doing? How do you think they feel?”
- **Level 3:** “How is this family the same as your family? How is it different?”
- **Level 4:** “Do you like to do these things with your family? What else do you like to do? What do you think the family did after taking this picture?”

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Share, “In this book we saw families that had different people in them. There were some things about the families that were the same, and some things that were different. Every family is special in their own way. The most important thing about a family is that they love and care about each other.”

BOOK ACTIVITY: Family Photo Wall

Have students bring in a photo of their family. Take some time during group gatherings to let students share about their family photos a few at a time. After they have shared their photo, find a special place in the classroom to post everyone’s family photos. If possible, post the photos at eye level for the students so they can visit their family photos whenever they like. Teachers can share their family photos and add to the photo wall as well!

