

The role of a family

16/07/2026

Instructions for Every Lesson:

1. Get your equipment out and write the title and date
2. Underline both with a ruler
3. Silently start working on the task below without having to be asked
4. If you have completed all of the above to a good standard, you deserve a house point for self-regulated learning



Some might say there are many kinds of families. Can you name any different types?

Write down on your white board, or in your book, one word that comes to mind when you think of your family.



The role of a family

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Key Vocabulary: Metacognition, self-regulated learning, growth mindset
Functions of families- nuclear family- step family- single parent family- extended family- adopted family- foster family- same sex parent family



How far do you agree with the statement '*no two families are the same*'?



In what ways are all types of families similar?



Why are families important?

Instructions:

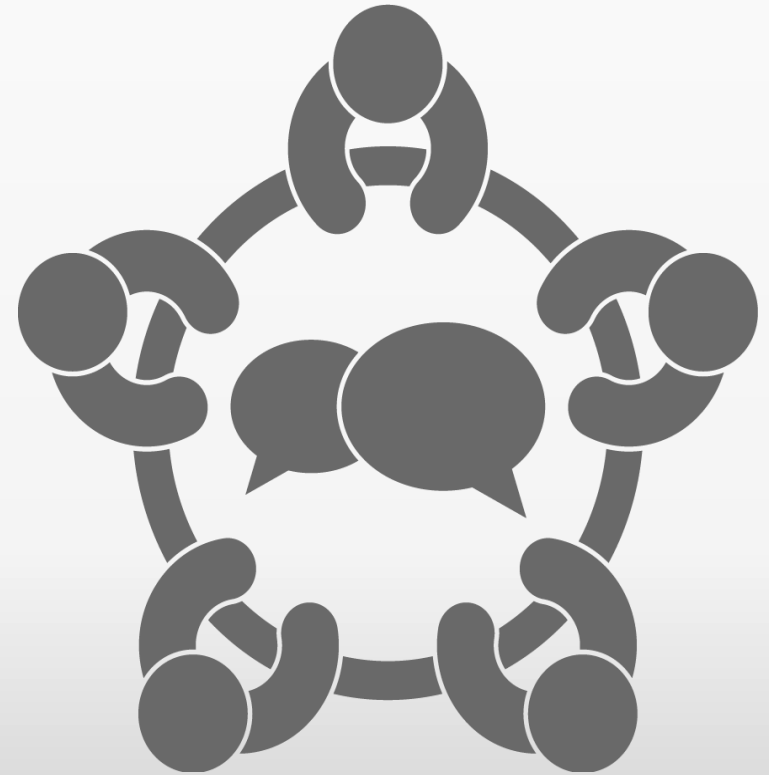
1. Check that you have written and underlined the title and date.
2. Assess the learning task you will be aiming for during the lesson.
3. Reflect on the progress questions and plan and monitor your approach to answering them by the end of the lesson.

Metacognition phases



Key Task: What are families for?

At the end of the lesson this will be our main written task



Structured Talk Instructions:

1. Read and consider the above question so that you can participate.
2. Discuss on your table, ensuring everyone contributes and can answer.
3. No hands for feeding back (if you can't answer it's an 'Off Task' negative).

Single Parent Family – these are families where one adult provides the care for the family.

People raise children in single parent families for lots of different reasons including: relationship breakdown; divorce; death of a partner; a partner having to work in another country, and many more.



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a single-parent family is, and at least one reason this may happen

A Single Parent Family is...

One adult

Caregiving



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a single-parent family is, and at least one reason this may happen

Nuclear Family – this is the term for the ‘traditional’ family structure, which consists of a mother, a father, and their children. The parents are either heterosexual, and their children are biologically theirs or families where the parents are in a homosexual relationship (both parents are the same sex).

The parents may be married or in a civil partnership, or they may be living together in a committed relationship.

The children in a same-sex family may be biologically related to one of their parents, or they may be adopted.



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a nuclear family is, and at least one reason this may happen

A Nuclear Family is...

Traditional view

Two parents

Caregiving



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a nuclear family is, and at least one reason this may happen

Step/Blended Family – these are families where at least **one of the parents has a child from a previous relationship**. Stepfamilies are sometimes referred to as blended families.



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a step or blended family is, and at least one reason this may happen

Extended Family – these are families where the adult or adults who are taking the role of parent are **actually a different relative**, for example **grandparents, aunts, uncles**, etc.

The children in an extended family might live with their wider family including their parents, or with particular members of their wider family alone.



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what an extended family is, and at least one reason this may happen

Adopted Family – these are families where the parent or parents are not biologically related to their children.

The parents have chosen to legally adopt their children, which is a permanent and official process, meaning that the adoptive parents are fully responsible for the welfare and upbringing of the children



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what an adopted family is, and at least one reason this may happen

Foster Family – these are families where the children **are being looked after by foster parents for a particular length of time.**

Foster parents are adults who are not related to the child. They are **paid by the government to look after children** who need care which their biological parents cannot provide.



Instructions:

Read the information above.

Make a note in your book of what a single-parent family is, and at least one reason this may happen.

Some of the functions of family include...

Material Support

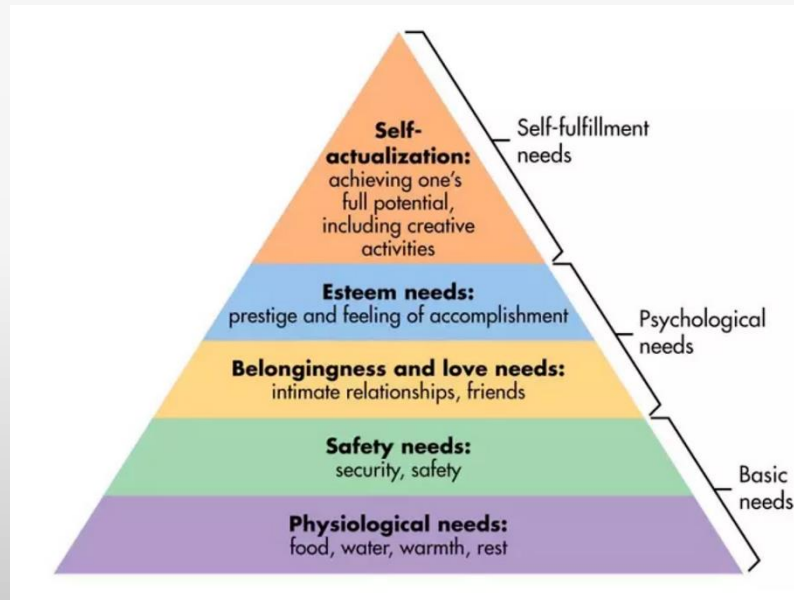
Food
Clothing
Shelter

Socialisation

Transmit values
Connection to world

Day to Day Support

Safety
Supervision
Hygiene
Health Care
Education



Education

Coping skills
Life skills

Social Support

Cared for/Love
Valued/Esteemed
Communication
Shared values
Companionship

Looking at all these functions, which do you feel matter the most, and why?



Listening	Laughing	Resolving conflict	Having new experiences together
Talking	Respect	Contributing financially to the household	Being apart
Hugging	Trust	Contributing by doing jobs such as the washing up	Working together to face a problem
Time together	Love	Forgiveness	Compromise
Relaxing together	Liking the same things	Having fun together	Having time alone

Instructions:

1. Working in a pair, or a three take it in turns to choose a word, or phrase, from the table above.
2. Explain the word or phrase
3. Explain why it matters to have this in a family

Listening	Laughing	Resolving conflict	Having new experiences together
Talking	Respect	Contributing financially to the household	Being apart
Hugging	Trust	Contributing by doing jobs such as the washing up	Working together to face a problem
Time together	Love	Forgiveness	Compromise
Relaxing together	Liking the same things	Having fun together	Having time alone

Instructions:

Now write out the three you think are the most important, and explain why

Life has ups and downs...



- Why do families fall out?
- What is normal?
- What to do if you have worries



Empathy Activity: Jamie and mum are having a argument...

Jamie asked if it was okay to go out after school to the skate park. Mum had agreed if the dish washer was emptied and homework was complete before Jamie goes out.



Jamie forgets to empty the dish washer in a rush to get to meet up with their mates at the park.

Jamie arrives home late after dark. Mum goes 'ballistic' at Jamie the minute they are through the door.

Instructions: In your books write the titles Mouth- Head- Heart

Mouth- what do they say to each other in the argument?

Head- what are they really thinking?

Heart- what are they feeling?

Extension- Hands (what should they do next?) and Boot it (what do they need to stop doing or let go of?)

Key Task: What are families for?

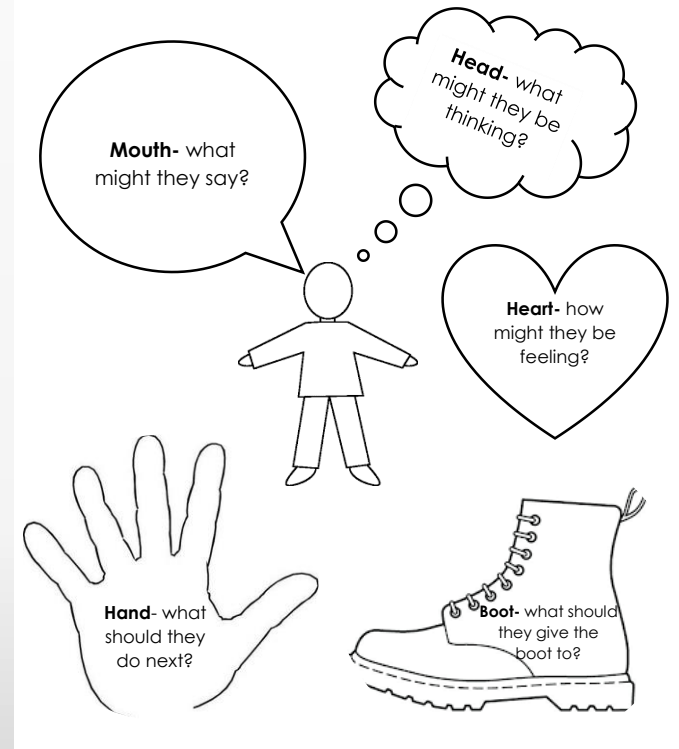
Families can be great because they provide...

This matters because...

If it goes wrong this might be because...

When someone needs help, they can...

Empathy, one of our school values, can be important because...



Instructions:

Copy and complete, or write in your own words, the answer to the question above.

Take a Risk activity: share your ideas with the class

Where to seek further information/help

CALL, CHAT ONLINE OR EMAIL US



Call free on 0800 1111

The quickest way to get through. You can call on any phone for free and it won't show on your bill.



Log in for a 1-2-1 counsellor chat

Chat with a counsellor in a safe space online about whatever is worrying you.



Send an email

Send an email from your Childline locker. We'll try to reply within 24 hours, but it might take longer.

Watch: Talking to Childline



Help!

Where can you get help?

HOME

Try talking to your parents. If you feel that you cannot talk to them consider talking to another family member or a good friend.

MEDICAL

Ms Harman is trained to help with a wide range of young people's problems. You can talk to Ms Harman in confidence. Drop in to see her in Medical.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

If you feel you need to talk to a counsellor, please see your Head of Year.

SCHOOL

Friends, Form Tutors, Subject Teachers, Pastoral Support Assistants, Year Tutors or any member of staff who you feel comfortable talking to.

DOCTOR

Make an appointment with your GP.



We're all here to help

If you live in Derbyshire you can talk to a trained social worker at **Derbyshire County Council** by phoning **01629 533190** anytime.

