

Pre and Post Visit Learning Experiences

Families are different

After Eliza died, Alfred married Matilda. Matilda had nine stepchildren to look after. Soon she had children of her own, and all the children had stepbrothers and stepsisters. Today families can be just two people or more. People in the family might be partners, grandparents, adopted or some other relation.

Brainstorm:

- What do you think the word family means?

Make a list of family words: parents, baby, half brother, twins, uncle, aunt and extended family....

Group the family words in a variety of ways.

Students could work with a friend to sort out which labels apply to them.

Individual students could make separate lists of the people in their families and then draw some of them.

Families are Important

Discuss:

- Why might it be important to have a family?

Make a flow chart of all the ideas.

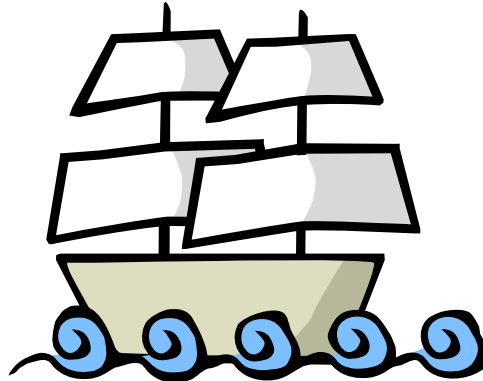
With a partner make a list of six important jobs you have to do to help your family. Draw symbols to represent these jobs e.g. a rubbish bin, dishes, clothes... Show the cards to other members of the class and see if they can guess the job. Find out how many others have to do the same job.

Make a chart of Family Fun Times. The headings suggested by the students could be 'Games', 'Birthday Parties', 'Outings', 'Jokes' etc.



Family History

Alfred and Eliza Buckland sailed to New Zealand in 1850 to start a new family life. Alfred's brother William helped them to get started. By the time they moved into Highwic in 1862 they had eight children. The Buckland family led a very eventful life visiting their farm at Buckland's Beach, riding their horses at different events, learning musical instruments and so on.



Research:

- Discuss with your family some of the important events in your family history.
- Write down the dates of these events.

Timeline:

Make a timeline on a long sheet of paper and write in the years. (The length of the timeline will vary according to the age of the children. Older students could record the time in decades.)

Mark in the events of your own family's history. You could mark in important world events as well.

Children may wish to add coloured stickers to denote happy or sad times.

More Family History

One of the daughters of Alfred and Eliza lived to be 102 and there is a recording of her speaking. She had lots of stories to tell but one of the most interesting was about her trip to see the famous pink and white terraces near Rotorua in 1870.

Research:

Students could find out about a member of their own family with an interesting story. This could be someone who served in WW1 or WW2,

someone who had an interesting hobby or someone was or is a favourite person.

Write and illustrate the story and share it with the class.

Think:

What interesting things might you do in your life to continue the family traditions?

From the Other Side of the World

Alfred and Eliza sailed to New Zealand from England in 1850. They were new immigrants then. Today New Zealanders come from many different countries.

Map:

Place nametags on a world map showing which country/countries each student's family originally came from.

Discuss:

- How might it feel to be a new immigrant?
- How can we make new immigrants feel welcome?
- What are some of the difficulties in moving to a new home?
- If you are the new person in a community what can you do to help yourself be accepted? How can your family help?



Sharing

In the 1880s there were a lot of children living at Highwic. They would have shared bedrooms, the bathrooms, toys, horses and even clothes.

During your visit to Highwic:

- Make a map of either the upstairs girls' room or the boys' barracks. The girls' room once would have had more beds.
- Write a list of the objects in those rooms that the children might have had to share.

Comparisons:

- Make a map of your house.
- Write a list of the things you have to share.
- Compare your share-list with the Highwic share-list. How do things compare?

Discuss:

Talk about each of the following topics with a friend.

- Taking turns
- Rules
- That's not fair!

Consider:

- Have you got things you could share with people who might need them?

Photos



This is a photo of Mary Evelyn Morrow with her children. She was a granddaughter of Alfred and Eliza.

Find:

Look for a special photo of your family. Write a label for it and say why you like it. Share the photo with other members of your class.