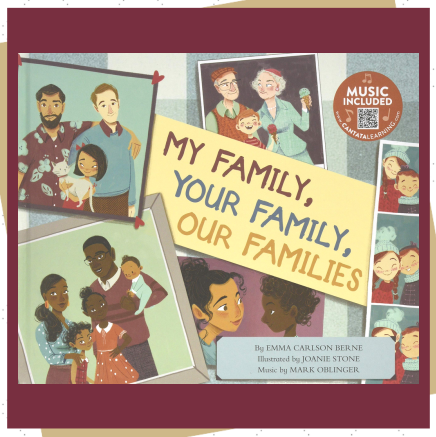


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

My Family, Your Family, Our Family by Emma Carlson Berne

Book Summary

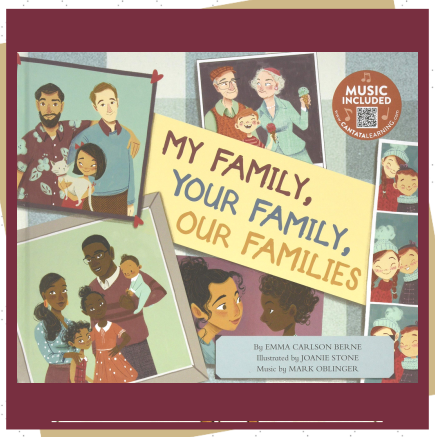
Families come in different sizes, but everybody needs people to care about them! How are we alike and how are we different? Let's explore this in the meaningful book "My Family, Your Family, Our Families."

Before Reading the Story

- Discuss what you see on the cover of the book.
- Make predictions on what the story may be about.
- This book is about families of all kinds. Talk with each other about the different families in your life.
- What do you enjoy doing with your family?
- What are some of the fun places you have gone with your family?

Target Vocabulary

- **special**: being very dear or liked very well
- **different**: not the same
- **caring**: helping and loving others
- **elsewhere**: in some other place, not here
- **cousin**: the children of an uncle or aunt
- **foster**: to give or to receive care in a family not related by birth or adoption
- **belong**: to be a part of



BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

During the Story

- Read the book aloud with the pictures facing your child.
- Make predictions about the story based on the pictures.
- Provide definitions and connections for any of the target vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar.
- Have your child repeat the words that they do not know.
- Relate the details in the story to events and experiences in your everyday life.
- Ask questions throughout the story to help your child understand what's being read.

After Reading the Story

- Have your child retell the story in their own words using the pictures.
- Flip through the book and look at the two main colors that are shown on each page. For example, one page has the colors red and blue. Name the two main colors that you see on the pages.
- This book has a song that goes along with it. On YouTube, search "My Family, Your Family, Our Family" and sing along!
- Using materials available (e.g. paper, pencils, markers, crayons), create a picture of a family that is **different** than yours.

Example Questions to Ask

- "Families care for me and ____."
- What is the family having for breakfast? What are your favorite foods to eat for breakfast?
- What vegetables are growing in the family's garden? What animals are they feeding?
- Who was helping the little girl when she scraped her knee? How did she scrape her knee?
- How are these families similar and how are they different?
- Why is the foster mother hugging the little boy?
- This book shows all different kinds of families. What does our family look like?