



My Family from Chile

Grades K–4

TEACHER'S GUIDE

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Families Around The World Video Series

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From Asia to Africa, city to suburb, or rural farm to tropical rain forest, the presence of the family is common to all people and present in every culture throughout the world. Studying families from different places helps us to learn and appreciate both the similarities and differences between ourselves and others. Also, through exposure to cultures that are unfamiliar to them, children can learn to be accepting of people, lifestyles and traditions that may be very different from their own. The family — that special group of adults and children who care for, love, protect, and help each other — is both explored and celebrated in *Families Around the World*.



Program Summary

In *My Family from Chile*, students will meet 5½-year-old Kevin and his large extended family. Kevin and his family are from the Valparaiso hills which are located on the coast, so they spend a lot of time enjoying the beach. This is a very exciting time for Kevin as he prepares for both his formal graduation ceremony from nursery school, and for the Christmas holidays. Students will see young Kevin fitted for his black cap and gown, and watch him receive his certificate in a graduation ceremony as his family proudly applauds his achievement. As students join Kevin on a feast day, they will see his family prepare the traditional Chilean dish, casuela, as Kevin and his siblings set the table.

Geographical Information

Located in western South America, the Republic of Chile, or Chile as it is more commonly called, is roughly 760 square kilometers. Chile is a long, narrow country, with an average width of only about 18 kilometers! Because Chile is such a long country, it has a variety of climates ranging from tropical in the North, to sub-Antarctic in the South. Natural phenomena and violent weather in Chile ranges from volcanic eruptions, violent earthquakes and tsunamis to fierce winter storms, flash floods and droughts. Much of northern Chile is desert and in the South, the Andes Mountains dominate the landscape. Chile's estimated population is 15 million and its capital city is Santiago. Spanish is the country's official language.

Valparaiso, located in central Chile, is nicknamed "The City of 43 Hills" because of the 43 hills that punctuate the landscape. This city is the chief port of Chile and the terminus of the Trans-Andean Railroad. It is also both an important industrial center and a tourist destination because it located on the coast.

Pre-viewing Discussion

Using a web, brainstorm with your students to determine who they consider to be members of their family. Share with your students that families come in all shapes and sizes and that a family is a group of adults and children who care for, love, protect and help each other. Use the following questions to help students access their thoughts and ideas about families.

- Who do you care for, love and help?
- Who cares for, loves and helps you?
- Does a family member have to be a person who lives with you?

After this discussion, ask students to draw a family portrait which includes all the people who they consider to be members of their family.

Follow-up Discussion

After viewing the program with your class, discuss the similarities and differences between their families and Kevin's. Refer students back to the original definition of a family: *A group of adults and children who care for, love, protect, and help each other.* Ask them to provide examples from the video that demonstrate how this particular family expresses love, shows care and provides help for each other.

Follow-up Activities

- Make a graduation card for Kevin. Make sure your card contains an appropriate greeting. Try to write one in Spanish. For example, ¡*Felicidades por tu graduación! Con afecto ...* (which says, "Congratulations on your graduation! With affection...").
- Using a Venn diagram, ask students to compare and contrast Kevin's family and social life with their own.
- Kevin's father is a gold miner. Divide your class into groups of four to find out what miners do and how they go about doing it. Discover what types of equipment and protective gear are needed to mine safely. Have them create an informational poster about what they have learned.
- Provide your students with blank maps of South America. Ask them to locate and label all South American countries and their capital cities.
- Chile is a country of extreme climates. Prepare a presentation which compares and contrasts the climate in northern Chile with the climate in the south. How might the lives of people differ from the North to the South?
- Think of a time when you felt proud of something that you achieved. Draw a picture of that experience and include a caption which explains what is happening in your illustration. Compile and create a "student pride book."

Suggested Internet Resources

Periodically, Internet Resources are updated on our Web site at www.LibraryVideo.com

- search.enchantedlearning.com/cgi-bin/uncgi/search?key=Chile
This Web site provides many ideas and printable activities related to Chile.
- www.interknowledge.com/chile/index.htm
This site contains basic information about Chile.

Suggested Print Resources

- Hughes, Brenda and Dick De Wilde. *Folk Tales from Chile*. Hippocrene Books, New York, NY; 1998.
- Klingel, Cynthia Fitterer and Robert B. Noyed. *Chile*. Compass Point Books, Mankato, MN; 2002.
- Pitcher, Caroline and Jackie Morris. *Mariana and the Merchild*. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, MI; 2000. A Chilean folktale about a woman who adopts a merbaby.