



My Family from England

Grades K–4

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Julia McMeans, M.Ed.

Curriculum Specialist, Schlessinger Media

Families Around The World Video Series

includes these 24 programs:

- MY FAMILY FROM BRAZIL
- MY FAMILY FROM GREENLAND
- MY FAMILY FROM ICELAND
- MY FAMILY FROM CHILE
- MY FAMILY FROM INDIA
- MY FAMILY FROM ISRAEL
- MY FAMILY FROM ITALY
- MY FAMILY FROM CHINA
- MY FAMILY FROM JAPAN
- MY FAMILY FROM JORDAN
- MY FAMILY FROM VIETNAM
- MY FAMILY FROM COSTA RICA
- MY FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA
- MY FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA
- MY FAMILY FROM CUBA
- MY FAMILY FROM SERBIA-MONTENEGRO
- MY FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA
- MY FAMILY FROM ENGLAND
- MY FAMILY FROM CANADA
- MY FAMILY FROM FRANCE
- MY FAMILY FROM LOS ANGELES
- MY XHOSA FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Teacher's Guides Included
and Available Online at:



800-843-3620



Program © 2003 by Marathon/TFO
Teacher's Guide © 2003 by Schlessinger Media,
a division of Library Video Company
P.O. Box 580, Wynnwood, PA 19096 • 800-843-3620
All rights reserved.

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 England*, students will meet 10-year-old Theo. Theo's parents are divorced, but that just makes his immediate family larger! Meet Theo's parents, stepparents, sister and stepsister. Students will join Theo and see his love of trains, computer games, soccer and his two dogs, Mischief and Munchie. This is a very special time for Theo as his mother is getting married and Theo has the honor of giving her away at the wedding. Theo loves learning about his family through his mother's family tree, and students will see the pride and joy that young Theo derives from his extended family as they gather together for his mother's big day.

Geographical Information

England is the largest and most populated of the four countries that comprise the United Kingdom (the others are Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland). England has a total area of about 130,000 square kilometers and a population of roughly 47 million. Its capital city is London, a city full of history and culture, which is also the financial center for the European community.

Oxford, England is roughly 84 kilometers northwest of London and is also known as the "City of Spires," because of its Gothic towers and steeples. Oxford is an old town, and is famous for the world-renowned Oxford University, which dates back to the 1100s. The sport of rowing has long been associated with Oxford University and its rival, Cambridge. The annual rowing contest between these two academic giants is a nationally televised event.

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 Theo'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

- Pretend that Theo is your pen pal. Write him a letter to find out what his favorite video games are. Make sure you share with him what your favorites are and explain why they are your favorites.
- Divide your class into groups of four. Assign each group a pet and instruct your students to discover what is required in order to take proper care of it. Have them create an informational poster that includes an illustration of the pet and captions that tell what is required to keep their particular pet happy and healthy.
- Ask your students to think about what their favorite dinners are. Provide each student with a paper place mat and have them illustrate and label his or her favorite dinner on the mat.
- Ask students to make lists of all the people they consider to be members of their families. (They could use their family portraits as a reference). Ask each student to draw a family tree that shows all of the members of his or her family.
- Ask your students to think of family events that were important to them (for instance, a birth, death, wedding, reunion, sports event, etc.). Ask them to each bring in one object that they are able to share that represents this event. Have each student explain the significance of the object. Then, create a group memory place and put all of these objects in this special area.
- Ask students to think about what it would be like if they, like Theo, had to live in two different houses. Have students work in pairs to find out what some of the good and bad things would be about that kind of living arrangement.

Suggested Internet Resources

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

- www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/online/explore/journey/uk/ukindex.htm

This site provides good information about the United Kingdom.

- infoplease.kids.lycos.com/ipka/A0108078.htm

This on-line almanac for children provides a lot of facts, figures and narrative information about the United Kingdom.

- www.animaland.org

This is a wonderful site, specifically for children, that provides information relating to the care of house pets.

Suggested Print Resources

- Britton, Tamara L. *England*. ABDO Publishing Company, Edina, MN; 2002.
- Jacobs, Joseph, Ed. and John Batten. *English Fairy Tales*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY; 1993.
- Massey, Jane. *Touch & Fit: Pets*. Silver Dolphin Books, Berkeley, CA; 2000.
- Rogers, Fred. *Stepfamilies: Let's Talk about It*. Penguin Putnam Books, New York, NY; 1997.