

Suggested Print Resources

- Haskins, Jim and Dana Gustafson. *Count Your Way Through the Arab World*. Lerner Publishing Group, Minneapolis, MN; 1990.
- Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane and Lawrence Migdale. *Celebrating Ramadan*. Holiday House, New York, NY; 2000.
- Khan, Rukhsana and Patty Gallinger. *Muslim Child: Understanding Islam through Stories and Poems*. Albert Whitman, Morton Grove, IL; 2002.



My Family from Jordan

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 NEW YORK CITY |
| • MY FAMILY FROM BURKINA FASO | • MY FAMILY FROM ICELAND | • MY FAMILY FROM SERBIA-MONTENEGRO |
| • MY FAMILY FROM CHILE | • MY FAMILY FROM INDIA | • MY FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA |
| • MY FAMILY FROM CHINA | • MY FAMILY FROM ISRAEL | • MY FAMILY FROM SOUTH KOREA |
| • MY FAMILY FROM COSTA RICA | • MY FAMILY FROM ITALY | • MY FAMILY FROM VIETNAM |
| • MY FAMILY FROM CUBA | • MY FAMILY FROM JAPAN | • MY INUIT FAMILY FROM CANADA |
| • MY FAMILY FROM ENGLAND | • MY FAMILY FROM JORDAN | • MY XHOSA FAMILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA |
| • MY FAMILY FROM FRANCE | • MY FAMILY FROM LAPLAND | |
| | • MY FAMILY FROM LOS ANGELES | |

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 Jordan*, students will meet 11-year-old Issa and his Palestinian family who live in Amman, which is the capital of Jordan. Issa's parents, grandmother, brothers, and sisters begin every morning by sharing breakfast together. A traditional breakfast drink is a cup of mint tea. Unfortunately, Issa doesn't like it very much and he is happy to pour his tea into his older brother's glass when he's not looking! Issa accompanies his father to the mosque to learn and practice Islam, the Muslim religion. He enjoys spending time with his father. Issa also loves traveling to his family's farm where his uncle is teaching him how to care for it, as it will be his responsibility some day. And because it is Ramadan, an important time for Muslims, Issa and his family will fast for the entire month from sun up till sunset. Issa loves when the fasting is over and his entire family joins together to eat and pray.

Geographical Information

Jordan, a Middle Eastern country, is located in southwest Asia. It is bordered by Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Israel, and has a land area of approximately 35,000 square kilometers. Jordan has a hot, arid, desert-like climate and is often at the mercy of *khamsin*, which are dry, dusty winds that blow across the country at different times of the year. Jordan has a population of about 5 million people, nearly all of whom speak Arabic, although there are many accents and dialects within the country.

Amman is Jordan's capital city. It is also the country's commercial, financial and international trade center. Jordan fosters the arts and has many cultural centers which offer a wide array of entertainment. Theatrical productions, opera, ballet, concerts and movies are available as well as many Internet cafes enjoyed by younger Jordanians. Folk art, including tapestry work, leather making, pottery, ceramics and storytelling remain popular in Amman.

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 Issa'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 Issa is your pen pal. Write him a letter to find out what it is like to fast. Make sure you share with him something about a holiday or tradition that you share with your family.
- Using a Venn diagram, ask students to compare and contrast Issa's family and social life with their own.
- Issa loves to play practical jokes on his family members. Have students think of a practical joke — either one they played on a family member or one that a family member played on them. Have them write about or illustrate what the joke was.
- Prepare and share mint tea with your students. A simple recipe can be found at: www.arabica.com/recipes/item00026/default.asp
- Take an Alphabet Tour of Jordan. Young students may enjoy this fun and informative lesson (prepared by a second grade teacher from Amman) to learn both the ABC's and facts about the country. The lesson can be found at: www.acsamman.edu.jo/~el/2/abc/index.html
- Teach a unit on farms. Students can learn the function of farms, identify farm animals, read stories about farms, create favorite farm animal graphs, sort and classify farm animals and match baby farm animals to their parents.
- Have your students think of an activity that they only do with one particular family member. Have them write a descriptive paragraph which tells about that one activity.

Suggested Internet Resources

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

- www.acsamman.edu.jo/~el/5A/photos/contents.html
This Web site has a slide show of different sites in Jordan.
- www.ualr.edu/~teachered/farm/
This site has a very good unit on farms for younger students.
- www.cie.org/index.htm
This is a wonderful Web site which provides information about Islam, as well as many teacher resources.