

### Suggested Print Resources

- Domeniconi, David and Pam Carroll. *G is for Golden: A California Alphabet*. Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI; 2002.
- Gaff, Jackie. *I Wonder Why Horses Wear Shoes: And Other Questions About Horses*. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, MA; 2002.
- Heinrichs, Ann. *California*. Compass Point Books, Mankato, MN; 2002.



## My Family from Los Angeles

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 Los Angeles*, students will meet 10-year-old Carly, her older sister, Kelly, and her mother and father. Carly and her family love to picnic at Malibu Beach in southern California. Picnics are a tradition in Carly's family, and they have one almost every weekend throughout the spring and summer. Carly lives in Hidden Hills, a private community in Los Angeles. Carly has many interests and hobbies including horseback riding. She is only a beginner, but her older sister, Kelly has already won many ribbons in horseback riding competitions. Carly's horse, Sarah is twenty years old, and lives in a stable not far from Carly's home. Like her mother and grandmother, Carly loves to dance. She is eager to carry on the family tradition of ballet dancing, and takes lessons three times a week. At the moment, Carly and her family are busy preparing for her father's fiftieth birthday celebration. As always, Carly and Kelly will select the birthday cake. The family, including grandparents, will join together to make this a special birthday celebration.

## Geographical Information

Los Angeles, California is the second most populous city in the United States after New York City. The city proper has a population of approximately 4 million, and the larger Los Angeles County, which includes such places as Long Beach and Beverly Hills, has a population of about 10 million. The city lies between the San Gabriel Mountains on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west, and has a land area of approximately 1,200 square kilometers. Los Angeles is famous for many things, most notably Hollywood (the seat of the American film industry), and the extensive and elaborate freeway system. Most Angelenos drive cars, as opposed to taking public transportation, and this contributes to the infamous smog which often plagues the city. The San Andreas Fault (an area in the Earth's crust that has cracked) makes the area somewhat geologically unstable, and tremors periodically occur in Los Angeles County.

The state of California is quite large (approximately 400,000 square kilometers). It is the third biggest state, exceeded in size only by Alaska and Texas. It has a population of about 33 million, and its capital is Sacramento. California is bordered by the states of Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, the country of Mexico, and the Pacific Ocean. California is the most populous state in the Union, and has the highest per capita income in the world.

## 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 Carly's family. 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

- One of Carly's favorite things to do is to read before she goes to bed at night. Share with students what your favorite time and place for reading is. Then have them think about their favorite places and times for reading. Students can create illustrations which show their favorite reading setting.
- Carly is involved in many activities other than school. Pretend that she is your pen pal, and write her a letter to find out which one is her favorite. Make sure you share with her all of the activities that you are involved in.
- Divide your class into groups of four to find out about California's state emblems and symbols. Assign each group four things to investigate (for instance: state animal, bird, flower and song). Each group can create a colorful poster using pictures from magazines or original drawings to illustrate their assigned emblems and symbols. A comprehensive list of California state emblems and symbols can be found at: [www.netstate.com/states/symb/ca\\_symb.htm](http://www.netstate.com/states/symb/ca_symb.htm)
- Horses are a big part of Carly's life. Students can learn about the history of horses, their anatomy and functions, and then create informational posters to present their findings.
- Divide your class into small groups to find out about different types of dancing and to discover why people dance. Using magazines, newspapers and other print resources, students can create dance collages to show what they discover.

## Suggested Internet Resources

Periodically, Internet Resources are updated on our Web site at [www.LibraryVideo.com](http://www.LibraryVideo.com)

- [www.dre.ca.gov/culture.htm](http://www.dre.ca.gov/culture.htm)  
This is a great Web site full of information relating to California. Students can take a virtual tour of the Governor's Office, learn about the Gold Rush, visit California ghost towns and more!
- [postcardsfrom.com/t1/990607.html](http://postcardsfrom.com/t1/990607.html)  
This is a fun site about California for children which includes stamps, fun facts, maps and more!