

- Maestro, Betsy C. and Giulio Maestro. *The Story of the Statue of Liberty*. William Morrow & Co., New York, NY; 1989.
- Maestro, Betsy C. and Susannah Ryan. *Coming to America: The Story of Immigration*. Scholastic, Inc., New York, NY; 1996.
- Munro, Roxi. *Inside-Outside Book of New York City*. SeaStar Books, New York, NY; 2001.



My Family from New York City

Grades K-4

TEACHER'S GUIDE

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Families Around The World Video Series

includes these 24 programs:

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| • 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 |
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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 New York* students will meet 11-year-old Katy and her family who live in a high-rise apartment building in the Chelsea section of New York City. It is Halloween in New York City and also the eve of Katy's twelfth birthday. Students will watch as Katy, dressed as a devil, trick-or-treats in Greenwich Village with her father. Students will also see Katy and her mother preparing her birthday cake and having a special birthday dinner at Katy's favorite restaurant. Katy's birthday celebration really gets underway after dinner when she and a group of girlfriends are treated to professional makeovers by Katy's cousin who is a makeup artist.

Geographical Information

New York City, or "The Big Apple" as it is often called, is the largest city in New York State with a population of nearly 19 million. It is located on the eastern Atlantic coast of the United States at the mouth of the Hudson River. It is comprised of five boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx, and Staten Island. New York City is the financial center of the United States and is famous for many things, most notably the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the United Nations, the Empire State Building, and its thriving arts and theater community.

Chelsea, the neighborhood in which Katy and her family live, is known for its cutting-edge arts scene. It is a very diverse neighborhood that is both industrial and residential.

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 Katy'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

- Pretend that Katy is your pen pal. Write her a letter asking her what it is like to live in New York City, and identify the things that you would like to do with her when you visit.
- Share the inscription on the Statue of Liberty with your students and discuss the meaning of the passage. Ask them to write a paragraph telling why they think it was important to so many people to come to America.
- Create a travel brochure for New York City. Make sure you include information on some of the more famous and interesting sights in New York City, and provide colorful illustrations to accompany your text.
- Write and illustrate a story which describes your most memorable Halloween. Make sure to include lots of details that tell what made this particular Halloween so special.
- Using a New York City subway map, plan a trip from Grand Central Station to Liberty Island. What trains would you have to take in order to reach your destination? Would you have to change trains? What stops would you pass along the way?
- Share the book *If Your Name Was Changed at Ellis Island* (Scholastic, Inc., 1994) by Ellen Levine and Wayne Parmenter with your students. Discuss the importance of Ellis Island and what it might feel like for an immigrant to arrive in a new country. Ask your students to write about, or draw pictures of how they might feel if they were immigrants.

Suggested Internet Resources

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

- www.ellisland.com/
This is the official website of Ellis Island. Although a bit heavy on text, it provides great visuals and students will be able to see a panoramic view of Ellis Island.
- www.dos.state.ny.us/kidsroom/nysfacts/factmenu.html
This is a good site about New York City for children.
- www.nps.gov/stli/prod02.htm
This is the website of The National Park Service. It offers good information about Liberty Island.
- www.libertycam.com
Visit the Statue of Liberty live on-line!
- www.proteacher.com/090134.shtml
This site offers a variety of printable resources about New York City.

Suggested Print Resources

- High, Linda Oatman and Robert Rayevsky. *Under New York*. Holiday House, New York, NY; 2001.
 - Johnson, Stephen T. *City by Numbers*. Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, New York, NY; 1998.
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