

## **ACTIVITIES FOR “FAMILY TREE”**

**BULLETIN BOARD DISPLAY:** Cut a bare tree shape out of a large piece of poster board or cardboard. Mount the tree on the wall. Use a digital camera and take photos of the children in the class. Assign each child a branch on the tree and mount their photos on their individual branches. Children then either bring photos of family members to add to their branch or they may draw pictures of their family if no photos are available from home. Allow each child to talk about the photos that he or she has added to their branch on the tree.



Display and use literature that:



Reflects diversity of gender roles, racial and cultural backgrounds and a range of ages and occupation.

Presents people from all groups being with family and participating in celebrations.

Depicts a variety of children and families within a group and gives an accurate representation of family lifestyles.

**DISCUSSION:** Ask the children about their own family. Find out how many have brothers, sisters or are an only child. Remind children that families come in all colors, sizes and shapes and their family is unique in many ways.

**SEWING:** Years ago, it was common for women to make quilts from scraps of material. The quilts were passed down from generation to generation. Ask children to bring in swatches of material to make a class pillow for the reading corner. Have a parent volunteer help children sew the quilted cover together and include the date the pillow was completed.

### **RELATED LITERATURE:**

A Forever Family / Roslyn A. Banish  
What Kind of Family Do You Have? / Gretchen Super  
What is a Family? / Gretchen Super  
All Kinds of Families / Norma Simon



## WE'RE A FAMILY



(Two "okay" signs in front of nose, and



Make a big circle and come together touching pinkies)

## AND WE'RE A TREE.



## OUR ROOTS GO DEEP DOWN...



(Make the lower hand crawl down like roots growing down deep)

## IN HISTORY.



(Slow whirl of hands over your shoulder)

## FROM MY ... GREAT ... GREAT ... GRANDDADDY ...



(Spread hand - like making a "5" - thumb to forehead)



Bounce once ...



Bounce again ...



Bounce a third time)

## REACHING UP



(Hands at waist...

## TO ME.



Big circle up to chest)

## WE'RE A GREEN ... AND GROWING ... FAMILY TREE.



(Make a little "bird's beak" on one hand with thumb & forefinger and shake - "like a duck saying No")



(Start with "tree" hand behind "land" hand, and ...



grow up!)

## FAMILY TREE

by John Forster & Tom Chapin

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