

Projects and Themes

Our Families

You may incorporate themes into your program's curriculum. Aiming for a bias-free program can be a part of all your themes. Reflect on what themes you will be using throughout the year, and think about ways to incorporate activities and projects related to developing the four anti-bias goals into the theme.

Children can work on theme-related projects in a variety of ways. The work can span a short time, such as an afternoon, or a longer time, such as a month. Children can work alone or in small or large groups. Let children's interests determine what aspect of the theme they will work on, if they are interested in the theme at all. Plan an event where all the children can share the work they have done.

Here are some things children can do to develop respect for self and others as they study families:

- Take measurements of different family members and their body parts, for example, height, arm span, foot size. The measurements can be gathered and put into a chart.
- Learn how to say the names for different family members (mother, father, aunt, sister) in other languages, including sign language, and teach them to the group.
- Gather pictures of family members to put into a class "Family Album."
- Learn a favorite song of a family member, and perform it for the class.
- Bring in a favorite food of their family, and share it with the class.
- Create three-dimensional figures of their family members using clay or play dough.
- Invite families to visit the class, and prepare a special event where children share the work they are doing with their families.