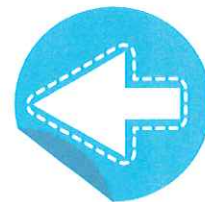
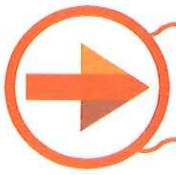


Here are three fun ways that you can talk to Helping Hands about families. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Helping Hands or create your own activities.





The following activities fulfill the requirement for My Family I: I Have a Family. See the Helping Hand Activity Book for accompanying worksheet(s).

ACTIVITY

1

Family Bags

10
MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Each child should bring a bag containing five to seven items that remind them of their family

Ahead of time: Ask the children to bring a bag containing five to seven items that represent fun times with their family. Each object should be something meaningful to or about the child's family. Examples: a shell from a family vacation, a vegetable from the family garden, a ticket stub from a ballgame, a picture of grandparents.

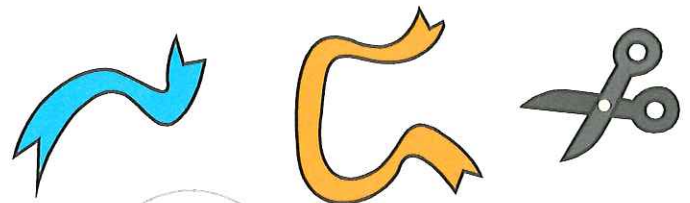
Begin the activity by sharing an object from the bag you brought and telling the children about the object and its connection to your family. Now have the children take turns telling about the objects they brought. (If you have a large group, divide the children into groups of four or five.) End by having the children form a circle and leading them in a prayer where each child says one thing about their family they are thankful for.

Not all children will come from a home with a mom and a dad as the caregivers. Be sensitive to all families in your club.



Accordion Scrapbook

WHAT YOU DO



20
MINUTES

2

ACTIVITY

Ahead of time: Ask the Helping Hands to bring eight family photos to the meeting.

Read Genesis 28:14 (CEB) to the Helping Hands: “Every family of earth will be blessed because of you and your descendants.” Define “descendants.” Ask the Helping Hands how they and their families can be a blessing to others.

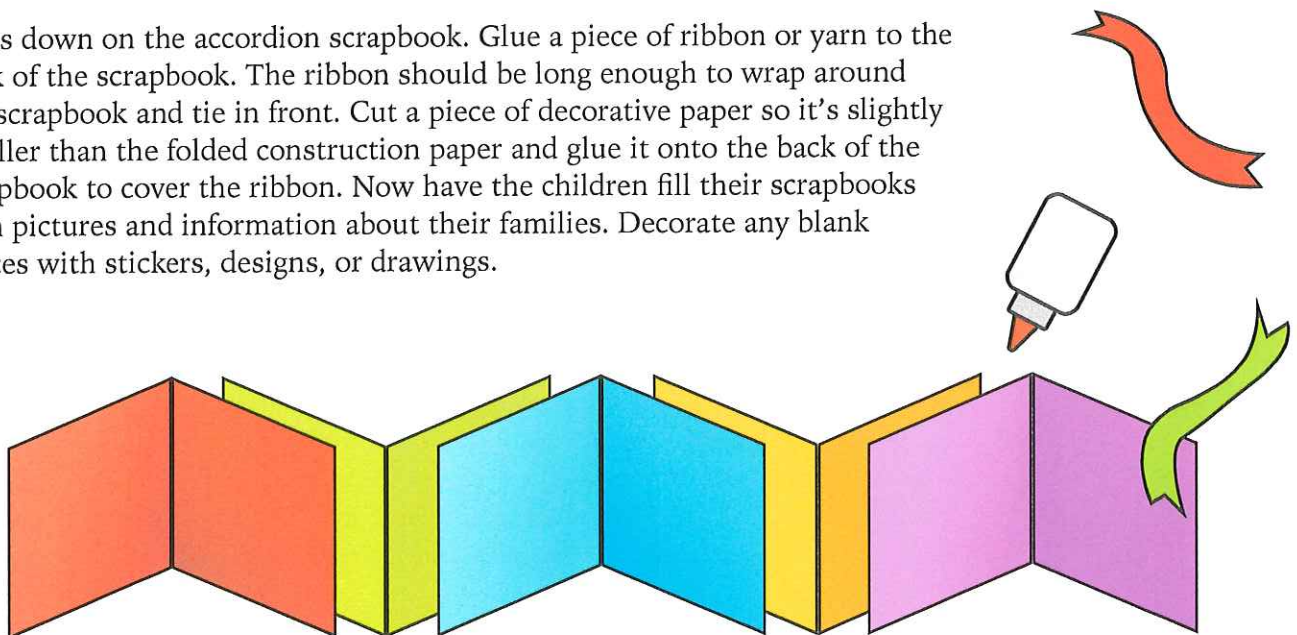
Show the children a completed accordion scrapbook. Explain that they can glue family pictures in the scrapbook and write ways their family members help each other and fun things their family does together.

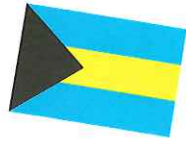
Have the children fold five sheets of construction paper in half so each sheet opens like a book. Stand two folded sheets of construction paper side by side with the fold of the first sheet of paper facing toward the child and the fold of the second sheet of paper facing away from the child. Spread glue on the back of one half of the first paper and firmly press against the front of one half of the second sheet of paper. Continue until all of the sheets of paper are glued together.

Press down on the accordion scrapbook. Glue a piece of ribbon or yarn to the back of the scrapbook. The ribbon should be long enough to wrap around the scrapbook and tie in front. Cut a piece of decorative paper so it's slightly smaller than the folded construction paper and glue it onto the back of the scrapbook to cover the ribbon. Now have the children fill their scrapbooks with pictures and information about their families. Decorate any blank spaces with stickers, designs, or drawings.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Construction paper, five sheets per child
- Glue
- Ribbon or yarn
- Markers
- Stickers
- Family photos (provided by children), eight per child
- Decorative paper sheets
- Scissors





ACTIVITY

3

Family Flag

15
MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pictures of flags
- 9 × 12 in (23 × 30.5 cm) sheets of construction paper in a variety of colors
- Additional construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers
- Yarn
- Scraps of fabric
- Additional objects that can be used to decorate the flags
- Dry erase board or large sheet of paper

Ahead of time: Read about your country's flag and find out what its colors and symbols mean.

Ask the children why countries or organizations have flags. On the board write some colors and some of their associated meanings, such as:

- Red: passion, action, bravery
- Orange: optimism, warmth, energy
- Yellow: hope, happiness, enthusiasm
- Green: growth, nature, renewal
- Blue: trust, peace, loyalty
- Purple: uniqueness, creativity, imagination
- Pink: love, compassion, playfulness
- White: purity, innocence, cleanliness
- Black: strength, protection, mystery

Common flag symbols are stars, stripes, the sun, the moon, crosses, triangles, and squares and their meanings vary from country to country. Share what the colors and symbols on your country's flag represent.

Ask the children to think about what is important to their family (honesty, helping each other, being kind). Then have the children create a flag that represents their family.

Have each child select a sheet of construction paper for the background of the flag. The color should represent an important trait about his or her family. Then have the children decorate their flags with symbols that represent a value that's important to their family or an activity their family likes doing together. The children can make up the meanings for their symbols. Have the children share the meaning of the colors and symbols on their flags. Also, encourage them to share the flag and its meaning with their family.



Requirement: My Family I