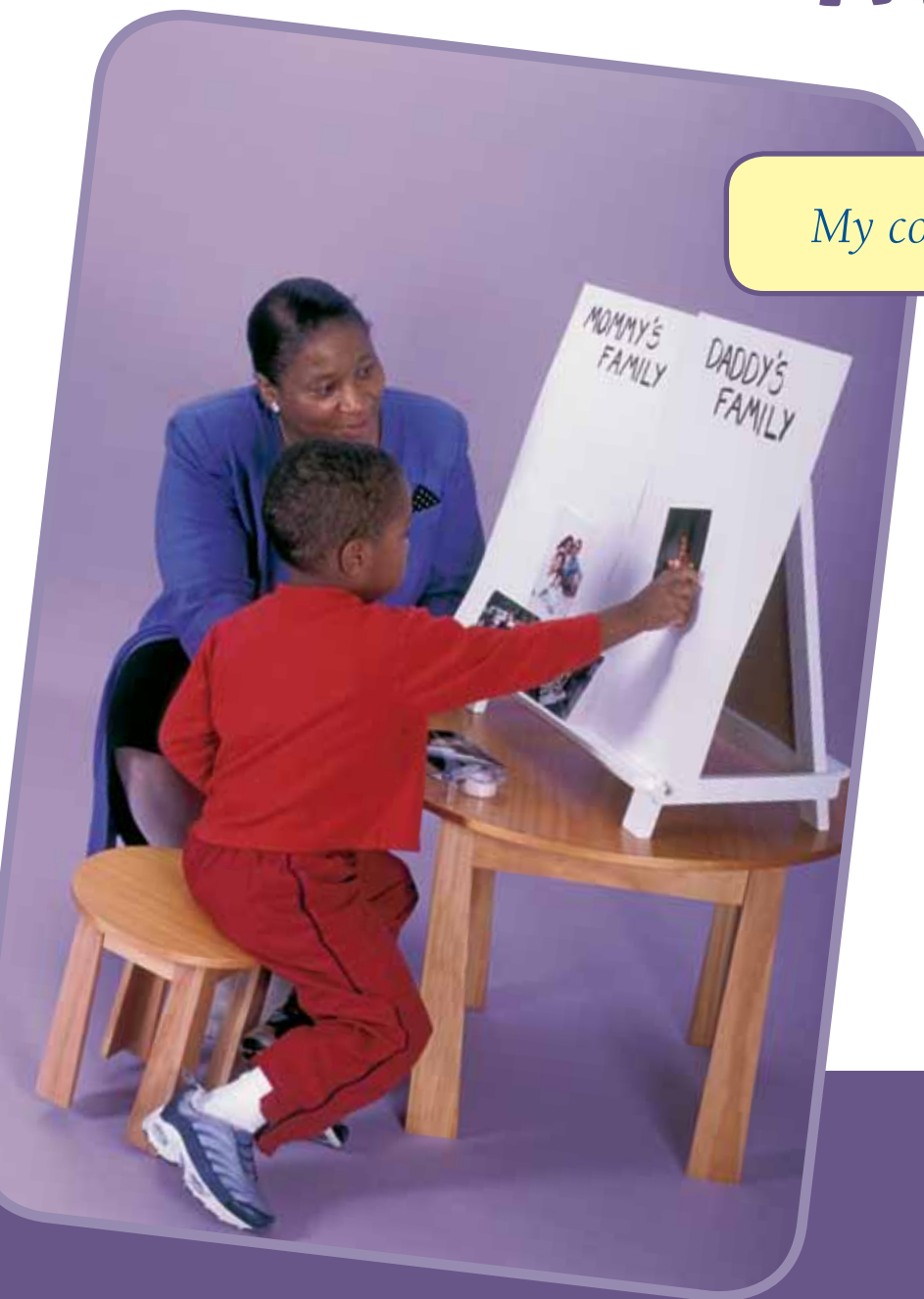


My Family

My cousin.

With your child, make and talk about a display of family pictures organized into groups.

Your child will gain understanding and words to help him talk about family relationships.





Why this is important

Your child will enjoy seeing and talking about the pictures of his family and will begin to associate each with the real person. At an age when children try to understand concepts by sorting them into groups and categories, it is helpful for them to gain some knowledge of the relationships among family members. Words like *aunt* and *uncle* will gain more meaning for your child as he begins to understand that one person can be many things (*old, young, sister, mother, aunt*) and fit into more than one category.

What you do

- Put two pieces of poster board or construction paper on the wall within your child's reach.
- Label one poster "Mommy's Family" and the other "Daddy's Family," or use other titles as needed to represent two sides of your child's family.
- Put a photo of each parent next to the label and invite your child to put a picture of himself on each poster.
- Encourage family members to send photos to be added to the posters. When your child receives a photo, explain the family relationship before adding it to the correct poster: *Aunt Marie is Daddy's little sister. Grandpapa was their Daddy.*
- Give explanations using words *brother, sister, uncle, etc.*
- Point out a relative's place in the family before a visit: *Uncle John is Grandmother's son and Mommy's brother.*

Another idea

If your family is small or you and your child are not in contact with all parts of the family, make one of the posters a "Love Family" consisting of the friends who play the roles of aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents for him.

Let's read together!

No Mirrors in My Nana's House
by Ysaye M. Barnwell