

Lesson 29 - I Love My Family

Aim

To learn that every person in a family is important
to know that God loves each family member

Materials

- * Story - 'The Berenstain Bears and Baby makes Five', by Stan & Jan Berenstain
- * Action song - 'I Love all my Family'
 - line drawings of mother, father, brother, sister and baby
 - red card, glue, scissors,
- * Children's pictures of themselves when they were a baby.
- * pictures of cute babies

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction
 2. Story & Discussion
 3. Action Song
 4. Activity - cut & paste pictures
 5. Review aims of lesson
 6. Prayer
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1) Introduction

Ask children to show you their pictures of when they were babies. Talk about each child's family. How many are there in your family? Do you have a baby brother or sister? Is your Mummy going to have another baby? Would you like to have a new baby brother or baby sister? Today's story is about a Bear family: Papa Bear, Mama bear, Brother Bear, Sister Bear and the new Baby Bear

2) Story & Discussion

* The Berenstain Bears and Baby makes Five - Sister Bear is not happy, because the new baby gets all the attention. When she draws a picture of her family for homework, she misses out the baby. Mother bear decides to show a video recording of when Sister was a baby, to remind Sister that she was a baby once. After the video Sister no longer feels upset, but is very happy to have a baby sister.

*** Discussion**

- Why was sister not happy with the baby?
- What made her change her mind?
- Do you remember when someone was a baby in your family?
- Do you think it is nice to have a baby in the family ?

- What is sometimes difficult?
- Remind the children that like Baby Bear, each of them was a baby once.

God loves each person in a family. When we love each other, God wants to be with us. Of all the members of a family, the baby needs the most love and attention. They can't do anything by themselves. God also made babies to be very cute and easy to love. Having a baby brother or sister can be a lot of fun

3) Action Song .

I Love all My Family - This action song reminds children that family members should love each other. The hearts can be made before the lesson and hidden in the room, or they can be made by the children as a craft activity first.

4) Activities

- * Cut and paste pictures for the action song
- * Cut and paste pictures of babies

4) Review the lesson aims

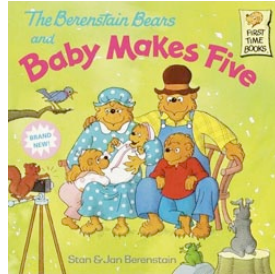
To learn that every person in a family is important
to know that God loves each family member

5) Prayer

- * Say a prayer to thank God for each member of your family.

The Berenstain Bears and **Baby makes Five**

by Stan & Jan Berenstain



When a brand-new cub makes its big entrance,
it often takes a while to get complete acceptance

Big news in Bear Country! The Bear family, who live in the big tree house down a sunny dirt road, has a new member: a baby girl named Honey. What fun! What excitement!

What a nuisance!

Sometimes it seemed that it was crying, feeding, burping, spitting up, and diapering around the clock. And when it wasn't *those* things, it was cuddling, dandling, fussing and kitchy-cooing. And when it wasn't those things, it was shopping, shopping and more shopping for things that were needed for the new baby. At least that's how it seemed to Sister Bear.

Brother Bear understood that babies need a lot of attention. He'd been through it before when sister was born. But having a new baby in the house was a new experience for Sister, and she wasn't enjoying it very much.

It didn't help that when Papa came home from work every day, the first thing he did was to pick up the new baby, make goo-goo eyes, and say, "How's my darling little dumpling?"

Dumpling. Good name for her, thought Sister - a fat little doughball that was hard to swallow. It didn't help at all when Aunt Min and Uncle Louie visited and made a big fuss over the new baby.

"Well, Sis," said Uncle Louie, "I guess you're not the big star around here anymore. Ha-ha-ha!"

Ha-ha-ha, indeed!

It wasn't just Aunt Min and Uncle Louie. It was as if every bear from miles around came to admire the new baby and say how cute she was!

"So cute!" said Mr. Grizzle.

"Cute as a button!" said Farmer Ben.

"Cute as a bug!" said Mrs. Bruin.

"Yeah," snapped Sister under her breath, a *stink* bug!"

Sister had a point about the new baby being a stink bug. While she couldn't do much, she sure was good at wetting and filling diapers.

"Sister, dear," said Mama one day when she was attending to the baby, "it's not very polite to say 'pee-yoo' every time you come near the baby. Meanwhile, would do me a favor and slosh the diaper in the toilet before you throw it away?"

"Pee-yoo!"

And the fuss they made when the baby did the least little thing.

"Get out the tape recorder! The baby said 'Goo'!"

"Get out the videocam! The baby is smiling!"

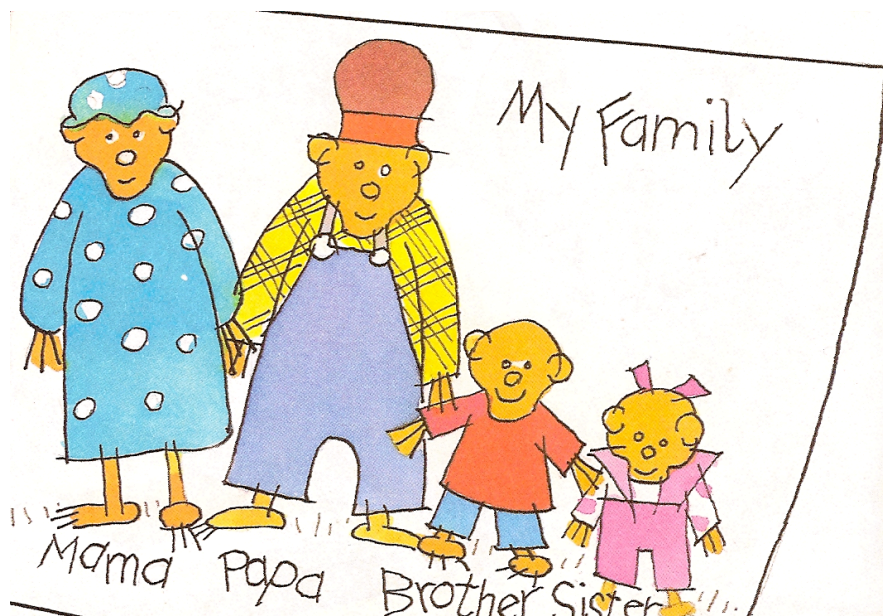
"Call the newspapers! The baby laughed out loud!"

It was easy to see that Sister was getting grumpier and grumpier. At least it would have been easy to see if Mama and Papa hadn't been so busy with the new baby. But since babies can't do much for themselves, they do need a lot of care and attention. Brother needed a lot of care and attention when he was a baby. So did Sister. That's the way it is with babies.

It takes Mother and Father Bluebird practically all day digging worms to feed their wide-mouthed babies. Mother fox works from dawn to dusk to care for and protect her kids. Mother Kangaroo carries her joey around in her pouch until it's big enough to do proper kangaroo jumps.

Brother could tell that Sister was seriously out of sorts. She was even angry at her dolls, because they reminded her of the new baby. But he had problems of his own at the time - like long division and multiplication tables. Speaking of school, it was an assignment Sister brought home from school that told Mama that Sister wasn't exactly thrilled about the baby. Teacher Jane had asked each cub in the class to draw a picture of his or her family. Sister liked to draw. She was a very good artist.

This is what the picture looked like:



When Mama saw it she new there was trouble afoot. "Dear," she asked, "why didn't you put your new baby sister in the picture?"

"Because," snarled Sister, "there wasn't enough room on the paper!" Then she stomped up the stairs, went into her room, and slammed the door. Oh, dear!

That evening after the new baby was asleep, Mama had an idea. "I know what," she said. "Let's look at our videocam movies."

"Let's not and say we did," said Sister thinking they would be the latest new baby videos. But she couldn't have been more wrong. While that's what they looked like, that's not what they were. They were videos that Mama and Papa had taken when *she* was a baby. They showed Papa playing kitchy-coo with her. They showed her smiling, laughing and saying "Goo." They showed her jumping up and down in her Jumping Jack. They showed her doing all the things her new baby sister was doing.

"Will you excuse me a minute?" Sister said when the last video had ended.

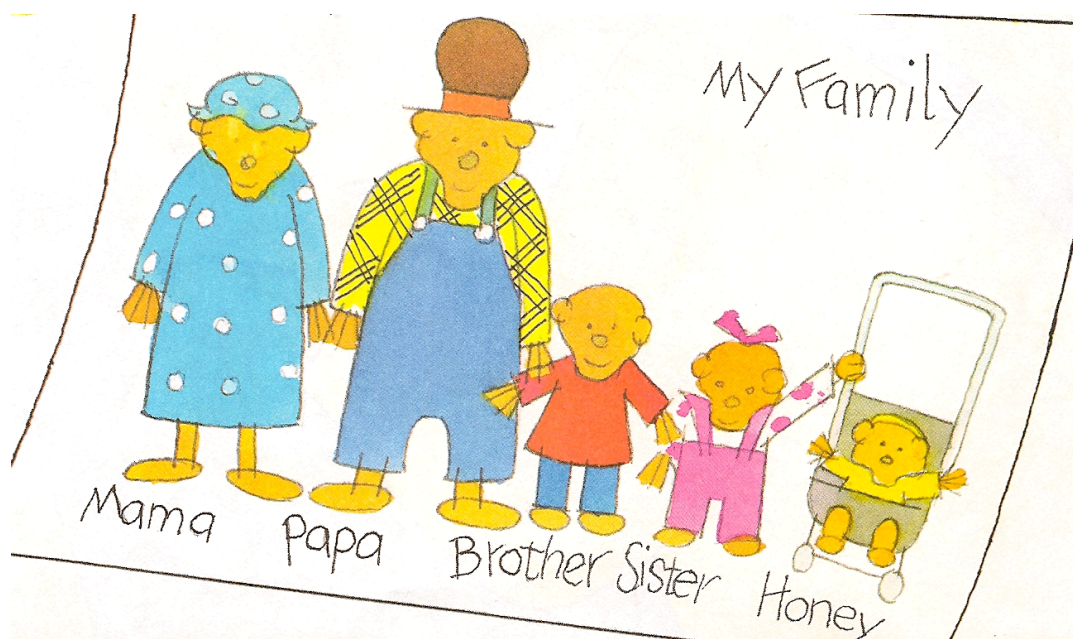
"I suppose so," said Mama as she watched Sister scurry up the stairs and into her room.

"What do you think?" asked Mama.

"I think we'd better go and see what she's up to," said Papa.

Mama, Papa, and Brother sneaked up the stairs to see what sister was up to. What she was up to was drawing another picture of the Bear family.

This is what it looked like:



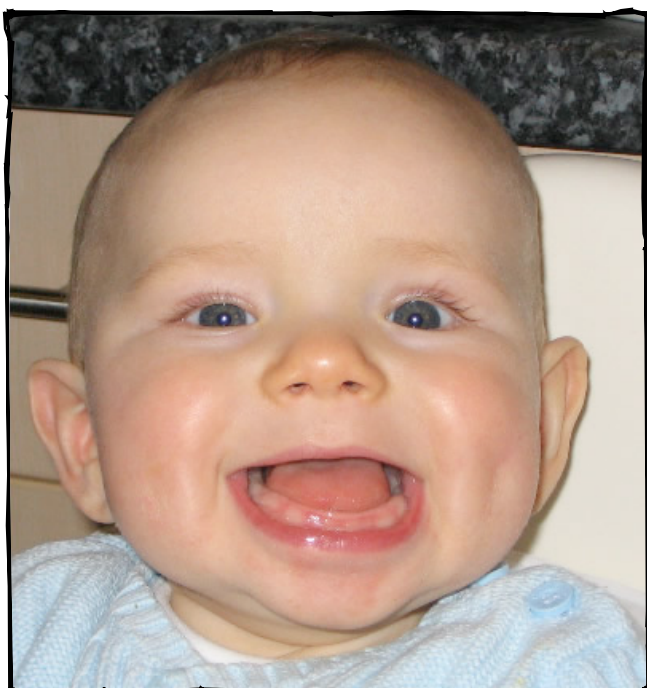
Mama, Papa and Brother breather a sigh of relief, "It's just about bedtime, dear," said Mama. "We may as well start getting ready for bed."

"Mama," said Sister, "could we take a peek at the baby first?"

"I don't see why not," said Mama.

The Bear family tiptoed very quietly into the baby's room. Sister peeked through the bars of the crib, at her sleeping baby sister.

"You know something?" she whispered. "She *is* kind of cute."



I Love All My Family



This action song reminds children that family members should love each other.

PREPARATION

For each child, cut one or two 15 cm wide hearts from red card. Copy the pictures of family members several times, as needed, and cut them apart. Glue one picture inside each heart. Before the children arrive, hide the hearts around the room in obvious places.

HOW TO PLAY

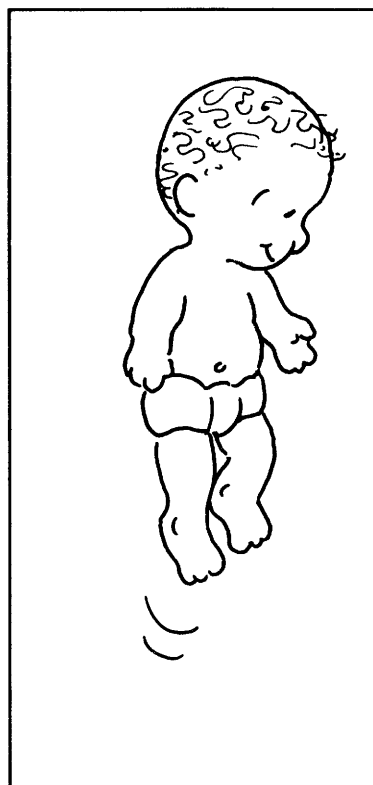
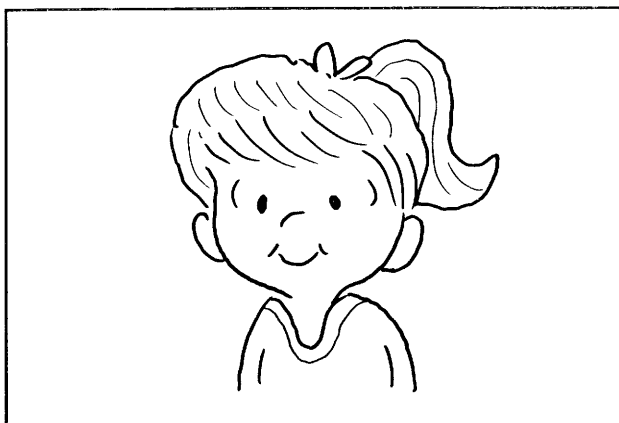
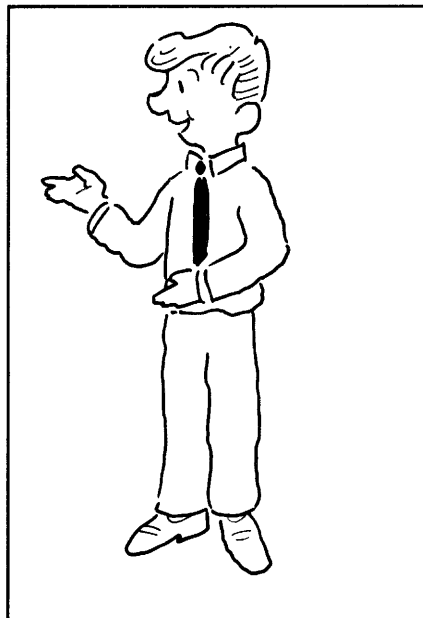
1. Have the children look for the hearts until each child has found one. As they find a heart, they may join you, sitting in a circle. When all children are seated, discuss the pictures on the hearts (daddy, mummy, sister, brother and baby).
2. Sing I LOVE ALL MY F AMILY to the tune of TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR. Let those children who have a picture of daddy stand and hold up their hearts during the song.
3. Ask, "What good things does Daddy do for you to show you he loves you?" Allow time for children to respond. Then ask, "What can you do for Daddy to show him you love him?"
4. Repeat the game, letting children with the other pictures stand. On the remaining verses substitute Mummy, Sister, Brother, and then Baby for the word "Daddy." Continue playing until each family member has been mentioned or as long as children are enjoying the game.

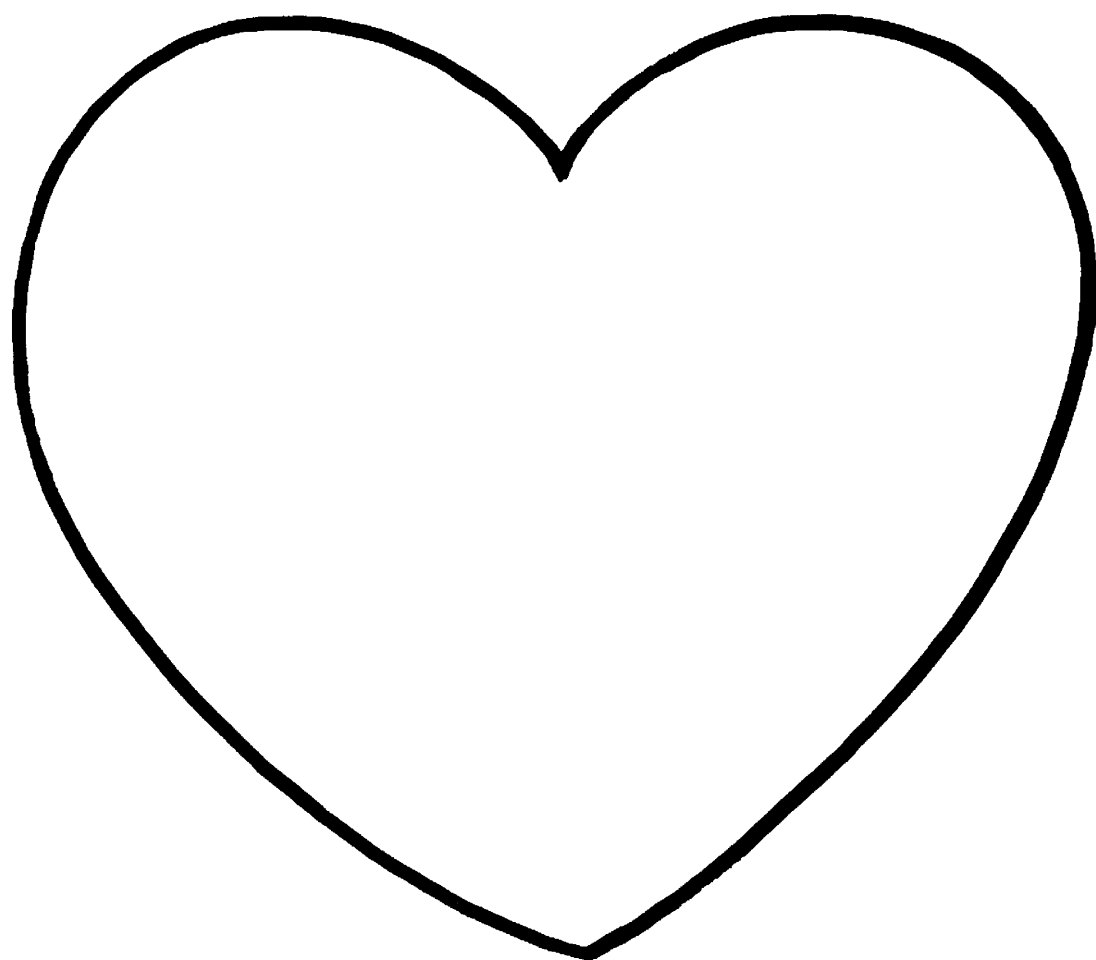
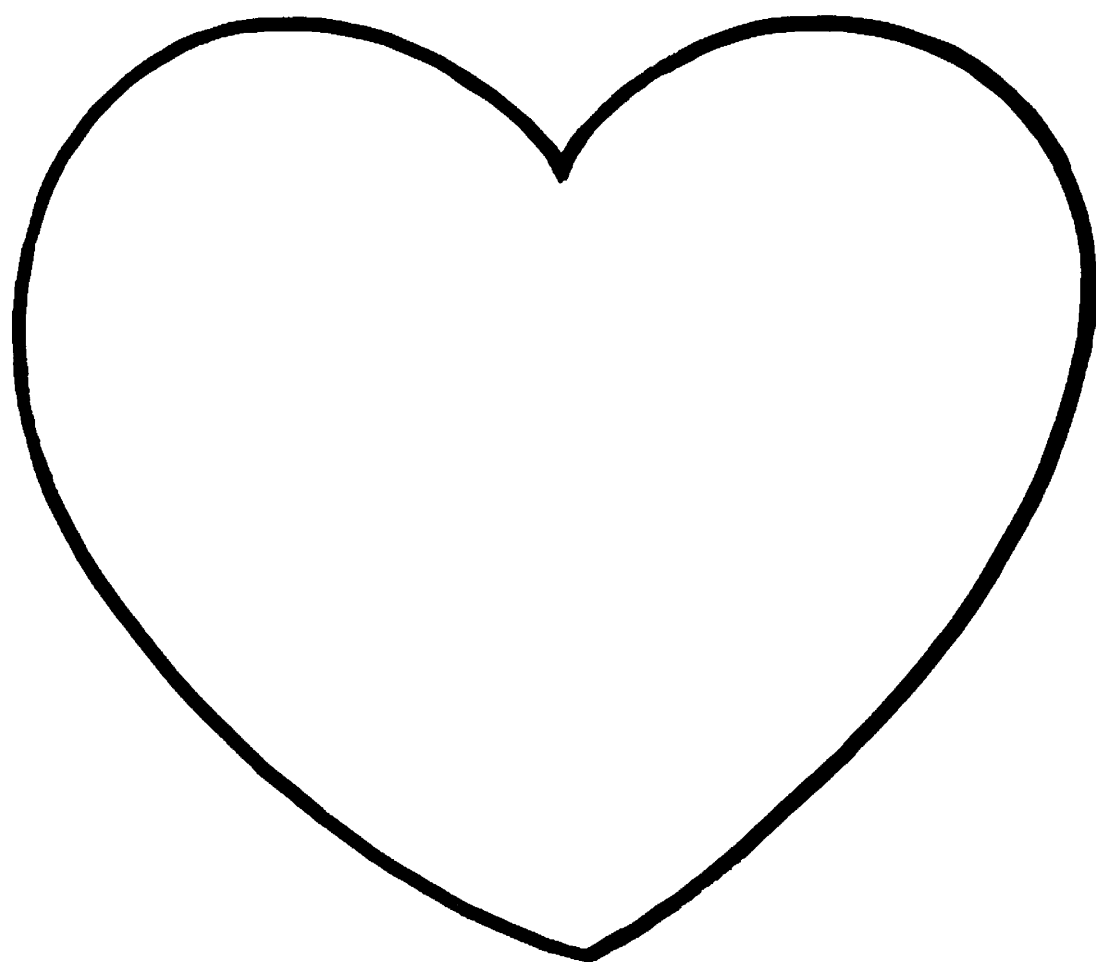
I Love All My Family

I love Dad- dy, yes, I do, And I know he loves me, too;

I love all my fam- i- ly, And I know they all love me;

I love Dad- dy, yes, I do, And I know he loves me, too.







My Family



My Family



Mama

Papa

Brother

Sister

Honey