



A conversation and resource guide for:

Our Changing Families

Conversation Starters

Family identity:

- When you were growing up, who did you consider the members of your family?
- What was your family structure? How was it the same or different from the other families in your community?
- Are there families that aren't represented here?

Talking about our changing families:

- Why is it important to educate our children about different types of families?
- Why does it matter how adults react to different types of families?
- How can we teach children to support and appreciate their friends with different types of families?
- What can we do with children who are unsure about their own family structure? How can we build their self pride regardless of family structure?

Conversation Starters after Salvador's Story: (4:20)

- Is there a time when you went out in public, at a restaurant, where you felt out of place?
- Questions around representation in the media?

Ethnicity, Culture:

- What are ways we can normalize difference around race and culture?
- Why do you want to be a teacher?
- What ideas have you come up with how to help your future students develop pride?

Terms & Understanding

Terms mentioned in the film:

- **Dominant Group:** Not necessarily the majority, but the group within a society with the power, privilege, and social status to control and define societal resources
- and social, political, and economic systems and norms.
- **Bilingual**
- **Multicultural**
- **Representation in the Media**
- **Social Identity**
- **Social Pride/Self Pride**
- **Systems Change:** A process designed to address the root causes of social problems and fundamentally alter the components and structures that perpetuate them in public systems (i.e. education system, child welfare system, etc.)
- **Biases**
- **Racial Microaggression:** Commonplace verbal, behavioral, or environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate or imply hostile or derogatory racial slights and insults toward people of color (e.g. asking a person of color "How did you get your job?" to imply they are not qualified).

Definitions from CSSP (2019). "Key Equity Terms and Concepts: A Glossary for Shared Understanding." Washington, DC: Center for the Study of Social Policy. Available at: <https://cssp.org/resource/key-equity-terms-concepts/>.

Resources for Continued Conversation

Children's Books about Families to get the Conversation Started:

Adult Books and Resources:

Online Resources



**“People will not remember the words that you say, but they will remember how you made them feel.”
- Maya Angelou**

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It is the intention of First Steps Kent that you view and consider the whole of the films, rather than selected parts. While some stories may resonate with you more than others, we hope you consider each story and viewpoint as unique and important in its own right.

These films were intended to foster discussion and create a springboard for more meaningful conversation within the classroom and the home.

Beyond these films, we hope your own sharing of experiences will be the most fruitful of all. By discussing and sharing, you can help evolve the conversation and improve an equitable experience for ALL children for generations to come.