1st Grade
Unit 2: Explore My Neighborhood

Essential Question #1: How are things both similar and different in my neighborhood?

Lesson Title: Families in Our Neighborhood

SS Standard I, Objective 1

Implementation Time: Two 30 minute lessons

Media Resources Needed: All Kinds of Families by Norma Simon

Resources Needed: house outline handout (1 per student); picture of your family

Materials Needed:
Chart paper/white board with T-chart
Blank paper for students (1 each)
Crayons, markers
Pencils
Butcher paper
Round colored stickers

Procedure:

Lesson One:

1. Brainstorm and list children’s ideas of what a family is.

2. Demonstrate the T-chart and model for students how to create one on their own blank paper (fold or draw the line). Label one side “My Teacher’s Family” and the other side “My Family.”

3. Show picture of teacher’s family. Use the T-chart to compare/contrast by drawing stick figures or words describing the teacher’s family. Students should follow teacher’s example on their own paper. After completing the teacher example, have students fill out the “My Family” side of the T-chart.

4. Read All Kinds of Families to students. Discuss needs that family members have and how families take care of those needs; i.e. food, shelter, clothing, money, companionship, support, safety, love, care, communication, a sense of belonging.
5. Explain how families change over time; i.e. new babies, older children leave.

6. Ask students how many of them have moved to a different house. Describe the effects of moving on a family; i.e. orientation to new home, area, new friends.

6. Draw a large house on the white board and model drawing a picture of your family on the house outline handout. Instruct students to draw a picture of their family on the middle section of their house (flaps close over picture so family is inside the house) and give them time to color their picture and decorate the outside of their house using crayons/markers. Cut out houses; fold so house opens to contain drawing of family members.

Lesson Two:

1. Model making a graph of family members. Have students graph their family members on the back side of their house outline handout.

2. On large butcher paper, make columns for a whole class graph including moms, dads, brothers, sisters, aunts, grandparents, pets.

3. Instruct students to place different colored round stickers to represent each person and add them to the class graph; i.e. red= moms; blue=dads, etc.

Extension:

Display houses on a clothesline so that both sides are visible. Discuss how our neighborhood is comprised of many different people and families and that school is an important place in the neighborhood where everyone comes together to learn and support their children.
Draw a picture of your family in the house