



## HELLO PARENTS,

Literacy is the ability to read, write, design, speak and listen in a way that allows children to communicate effectively and to make sense of the world. Children can begin developing the skills they need to become strong readers from a very young age by looking at books, recognizing print, following the story, learning vocabulary, and identifying sounds. Family Literacy Day provides families an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. The theme of this year's Family Literacy Day is "Celebrate Your Heritage". In this newsletter, we will provide activities to help your child explore and learn about your heritage and share your culture with others.

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### YOUR FAMILY TRADITION

#### MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencils or markers

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Invite your family to have a conversation about your family traditions. It could be any kind of tradition, such as a special holiday, a meal that your family eats, or special places you visit together.
- Draw a picture of your family tradition.
- Share your picture with your family and explore your family tradition by asking questions like:
  - What is your special family tradition?
  - What is your favourite part about the tradition?
  - How long has your family been doing this tradition?
  - What kinds of new traditions would you like to start with your family?

[Click here](#) for more information about Family Literacy Day and activities.

### FAMILY HISTORY CHARADES

#### MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Basket

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Sit down with family members and make a list of various events. For example: memories from someone's childhood, how your parents or grandparents met, moving to a new place/house, memorable vacation trip, etc.
- Write each event on a separate piece of paper and put them in a basket.
- Divide family members into teams.
- Each team will take a turn drawing one family event from the basket and acting it out without words.
- The other team(s) will try to guess which event is being acted out.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

### FAMILY MIGRATION MAP

#### MATERIALS:

- Coloured pencils
- Paper
- Printer

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Print the map of Canada or map of the world.
- From what you know about your family from written records or family stories, map each family member's journey to Canada.
- Use a different colour to trace each person's journey.
- Share the map with your family. Go as many generations back as you can based on the information you have collected.
- Hang the map on the wall and learn your family's background and heritage.

[Click here](#) to listen to the book "From Far Away" by Robert Munsch and Saoussan Askar.



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#### TIPS TO CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE

- Research your family's place of origin.
- Interview a family member about where they grew up and what it was like.
- Listen with your family to music from your cultural background.
- Take out the family photo album or old magazines and newspapers to create a collage about what your family and heritage means to you.
- Look up a recipe for a famous meal from your culture.