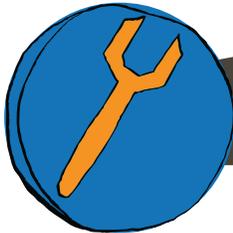


My FAMILY IS SPECIAL



TOOL 3E: MY FAMILY COLLAGE

LINKED TO:

- Sections 2.11, 3.2, 3.3 & 3.4



WHY?

- To help families create a positive picture of their family
- To help families see what they have in common, their strengths and needs
- To help families define (without having to use words) what they value, what is important to them and how they want to be as a family



WHO WITH?

- Individuals, groups of children and family groups
- Preschoolers to grandparents



TIME?

- 20 to 45 minutes plus time to take photos and print them out before this activity

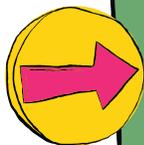


YOU'LL NEED?

- Materials for your collage
- Cardboard/posterboard
- Scissors
- Glue



My FAMILY IS SPECIAL



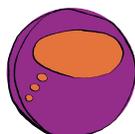
WHAT TO DO:

- Before the session, get a photo taken of the family as a whole and then give the children a camera and ask them to take photos of their family – either at a joint activity, spending time together or just hanging out
- Help children collect lots of bits and pieces that tell a story about themselves and their families – words or pictures from magazines, artwork that family members have completed (check that they're OK for them to be included!)
- Arrange all the items that you have collected on a mount board. Move them around until they are happy with the way that they look



SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

- 3D pictures: To make a picture stand out from the cardboard:
 - glue the picture on to a lightweight piece of cardboard. Cut out around the picture
 - fold another strip of cardboard in half, then in half again. Open it up a little, so it looks like a chair with the bottom folded in
 - glue the flat part to the top of the mount board
 - glue the picture to the raised part that sticks out from the board.
- Try to get photos of families for children to use. However, if it's not possible to take a family photo, children can draw pictures of their family instead.



TO THINK ABOUT:

- This is a great tool for including whole families. However, some parents or children may not want to participate. That's OK – they can watch or help their children to find the bits and pieces they need.



HAZARD ZONES:

- You may need to model open ended non-judgemental questions about their collages (eg 'I notice this shape/picture/colour here – can you tell me about it? I wonder what that is about?') for families who haven't spent much time working together.