

# LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series

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<b>Category</b>	Vocabulary	<b>Title</b>	B20 – My Family Fountain
<b>Ages</b>	4–8	<b>Theme</b>	Family Vocabulary + Four Generations of Kinship Terms

## INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

In this book, children follow two cousins as they create a family tree for their grandmother's birthday. Through this heartwarming story, children learn four generations of family vocabulary — from great-grandparents all the way down to the youngest family members — including extended kinship terms like niece, nephew, cousin, and son-in-law.

The beautiful Family Fountain metaphor shows how love and history flow down from older generations to younger ones, just like water pouring down a fountain. This vivid image helps children understand not just the words, but the meaning and warmth behind family relationships.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

*Children will be able to:*

- Name and use common family vocabulary — mother, father, grandparents, siblings, and more
- Use extended kinship terms — niece, nephew, cousin, aunt, uncle, son-in-law, and others
- Understand the concept of four generations within a family
- Explain in-law relationships simply and clearly
- Create a Family Fountain that shows how generations are connected

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### 1. Connect family titles to real faces

Look at family photos together and practise using the vocabulary from the book. Point to different people and ask: 'Who is your aunt?' or 'Who are Grandma's grandsons?' Linking these terms to people your child loves makes the vocabulary stick instantly and personally. Go through as many family members as you can, moving from simple terms to more extended ones.

### 2. Create your own Family Fountain

Encourage your child to draw their family in the shape of a fountain, with the oldest generation at the top and the youngest at the bottom. Talk about how love pours down from great-grandparents to the children — just like water flowing down a fountain. This visual helps children understand the concept of generations in a sweet and memorable way, and makes a wonderful keepsake to share with the whole family.

### 3. Master the tricky in-law terms

Terms like son-in-law and mother-in-law can be confusing for young learners. Explain it simply: when someone marries into the family, they become a 'law' relative. Relating each in-law term to

a real person your child knows personally helps demystify these complex titles and makes them feel natural rather than intimidating.

### **FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES**

Ask your child to introduce their family to you in English, working from the oldest generation to the youngest. Encourage full sentences: 'This is my grandmother. She is my mum's mum.' For an extra challenge, ask them to explain an in-law relationship — for example: 'Who is Dad's brother's wife?' See how confidently they can navigate all four generations!

Try the fun online learning activities for this book on our website!

[Click here to try the online learning activities](#)

### **TEACHER'S NOTES & TIPS**

Extended kinship terms like niece, nephew, and son-in-law can be genuinely tricky because they depend on perspective — a child who is someone's niece is also someone else's daughter. The most effective approach is always to anchor each term to a real, familiar person. For children from cultures where family structures or titles differ, be sensitive and flexible — the goal is learning the English vocabulary, not prescribing a particular family model. The Family Fountain metaphor is a lovely discussion starter about heritage, love, and belonging that resonates across all cultures.