



## FATHER'S DAY

### Lesson Ideas

Below you will find a selection of curriculum-linked lesson ideas and accompanying activity sheets, written for primary and middle years students, to celebrate Father's Day.

### Broad learning outcomes

Using this curriculum material will assist students in achieving the following broad learning outcomes:

- Students will explore the roles that fathers (or other males) play within the family unit.
- Students will participate in celebrating their father (or another special person) in their life.
- Students will learn about the origins of Father's Day and how it is celebrated around the world.

### English

- Students, working alone or in small groups, to explore how fathers and/or men are portrayed in picture books by completing the '**Alien Landing**' activity sheet. When completed, each student, or small group, to share their findings with the class then discuss:
  - Are there any common themes among the books?
  - Why do students think the authors have chosen to portray the characters this way?
  - Do students think there is anything wrong with any of the character portrayals?
  - Was there a large range of character portrayals or are common stereotypes reinforced among the books?
- Students to write a haiku poem about a special person in their life.
- Students to create a coupon book as a gift for their father/special person. The coupons can be exchanged for services such as doing the dishes, washing the car, mowing the lawn etc. If they wish, students can use the coupon templates available with the activity sheets.
- Students to write a short story or picture book about their fathers/special person. Look at simple stories to gain inspiration and begin with a brainstorm of adjectives used to describe a loved person. The story/picture book must include text and pictures.



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- Students to invent their own special day to celebrate something they love, e.g. dog day, football day, chocolate day etc. What date would the celebration be on and what could be done to celebrate?

### Mathematics

- Students to work in small groups to plan a stall to sell gifts for Father's Day. Students must calculate the required initial capital investment, advertising costs, prices for goods and expected profits.
- Students to be given a budget and then use supermarket catalogues to purchase goods to make a special meal to celebrate Father's day.
- Students to use tessellation to create a patchwork quilt pattern. The design could be used to make a card.
- Students to use beads to create a patterned keychain.

### Science

- Students to research parents in the animal kingdom. How do the roles differ in different types of animals (i.e. mammals, monotremes etc.)? For fathers, research the role that they play in caring for their young.

### Humanities and Social Sciences

#### History

- Students to research the origin of Father's Day. Write an explanation of how the celebration was started and how it may have changed over time. Present the findings using multimedia.
- Students to create a timeline of celebrations they have enjoyed with their family. Include photographs if they are available.
- Students to select one male figure from their family (i.e. father, carer, grandfather etc.) as the focus of a report. Interview the person and other family members to collect information for the report.
- Sonora Smart Dodd is credited with creating Father's Day. Research to find out more about her and her life.



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- Students to discuss the idea of 'family'. How is this defined and who do students consider part of their family? Do the people have to be related by blood or can they just be special people in the student's lives? Students to record the names of the people in their 'family' on the '**Special People Tree**' activity sheet. Page two of the activity sheet should be enlarged to A3 size.

### Geography

- Students to research ways in which countries around the world celebrate Father's Day.
- Students to investigate their family tree on their father's side. On a map, mark the places where the people on the tree were born or lived.

### Economics and Business

- Students to review and discuss the tactics used by companies to encourage consumers to buy their goods at times such as Father's Day.
- Students to discuss which factors influence them when selecting a present for a special person in their life.

### The Arts

- Students to make a gift box for their father or special person. Instructions and a template can be found with the activity sheets.
- Students to make a peek-a-boo style card for Father's Day. Instructions for this card can be found with the activity sheets.
- Students to make a photograph collage (using photos of themselves) as a gift for a special person in their life.

### Technologies

#### Design and Technologies

- Students to make a list of the tasks that their father/special person does in a typical day, then design a robot that can do these tasks for them. Make a model of the robot. Students then discuss: "What can humans do that robots cannot?"



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### Health and Physical Education

- Students to devise several options for healthy breakfasts that could be served on Father's Day.
- Students to make a list of healthy and fun activities that families could do together to celebrate Father's Day.

### Languages

- Students to research their own cultural background, write a poem about it then recite it to their father or another special person on Father's Day.
- Students to learn how to say and write 'Happy Father's Day' in different languages.