

Family Albums, Scrapbooks, or Storybooks

Use these ideas to create a Family Album activity for the children in your program. Consider the ages and skills of the children and modify the template and instructions to meet the needs of individual children and families. Feel free to add or remove pages or change the headings.

Be creative and guide the children to design an album that represents what is important to them and their family.

TIPS TO REMEMBER:

- Every family is unique. Respect the similarities and differences among them.
- Include items that:
 - Are especially meaningful to the child and his/her family
 - Show a family's history
 - Tell a story about a child's family
 - Connect with a family's culture or background
 - Preserve a memory for the future

Items may include: notes, letters, postcards, greeting cards, ticket stubs, invitations, announcements, certificates, awards, ribbons, children's handprints/footprints, pieces of fabric, and more. Actual items can be replaced with photographs, drawings, or written descriptions.

- Families are critical partners in children's development and learning. Communicate instructions clearly so family members and children can participate actively and successfully this activity.
- Family stories can be record in many ways such as: videos, audio files, paintings/ drawings, poems, song, story panels, collages of pictures and words.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Download the Family Album template or create your own template for children to use with their family members.
2. Explain the activity to families and how albums and scrapbooks will be shared with others (see sample instructions for families). Feel free to translate instructions into the languages children in your program speak at home.

Family Album

Dear families,

We can use your help with a special activity to celebrate families. Together, we want to help the children learn to appreciate themselves and others through our Family Album project.

As part of the project, we are asking you to help your child tell your family's story. We have provided materials and topics for you to include in the album. We hope you will add your own ideas and help us learn more about, and from, each other.

You can help by:

- Working with your child to tell your family's story using pictures, words, photographs, or other items.
- Providing copies of photos, drawings, certificates, and other items that are important in telling your family's story.

Please label all items with your child's name or place them in a bag with your child's name so we can return them to you safely. You can also take photos of items too valuable to send in.

- Joining us for a Family Album event to share our stories and celebrate one another.
- Letting us know how we can help you and your child make this project a success.
- Having fun!

My Family's Story

This is my family.

My Family's Important Events

My Family's Special Places

Favorite Family Stories

Traditions and Celebrations

My family likes to ...

Family Recipe