

6. Name and briefly describe two things the family does that supports the emotional well-being of the members.

7. Explain how this family provides a safe, trial and error environment (infer a little if necessary).

8. Does this family show appreciation and affection? If so, give an example.

9. Does this family show commitment to each other? If so, give an example.

10. Does this family communicate well? Why/why not?

11. Does this family spend enjoyable time together? If so, give an example?

12. Explain any problem(s) was the family was experiencing and how it was solved?

13. What is the overall message this book teaches the child reading it about family?

Name Example

**Families in Children's Books
Work of the Family**

Directions: Find a children's book about a family – it needs to be long enough to really tell a story so you can see the interactions between family members. A good example of this would be an "Arthur" or "Berenstain Bears" book. Check the book out, read it and answer the following questions about the family in the book. When you are finished, please hand in this worksheet with the book. I will return the book after I check your paper.

Name of Book Just Me and My Mom by Mercer Mayer

1. Name the family members, their role in the family (mother, son, etc.) and their approximate ages (guesstimate).

*Me – 6? Doesn't say actual names or ages.
Mom – 30?*

2. What type of family is this? Why?

In this book they only show the single parent family (but they may have more family at home – it doesn't say)

3. What stage of the family life cycle are they in? Tell why.

This looks like the expanding stage – small children – if there are other children, too, it could be the crowded stage.

4. Name 2 things the family does to take care of the physical needs of the family.

*Eat a hot dog together.
Holds hand to keep each other safe.*

5. Name 2 things the family does that teaches socialization (how to get along with others.)

Mom gave kid money to buy train tickets (how to buy something from someone). & mom looking for him at the show (staying close when in a crowd).

6. Name 2 things the family does that supports the emotional well-being of the members.

Mom buys new tickets when child loses them (doesn't yell) & held hands so the other wasn't scared.

7. Does this family show appreciation and affection? If so, give an example.

Yes, they hold hands and he leans on her on the way home on the train.

8. Does this family show commitment to each other? If so, give an example.

They are spending time together and the mom is taking the child to all kinds of things in the city.

9. Does this family communicate well? Why/why not?

This book doesn't show a lot of communication, but what it shows is positive. Mom doesn't yell at the child even when he makes mistakes.

10. Does this family spend enjoyable time together? If so, give an example?

The whole book is an example of spending enjoyable time together. They are seeing lots of new things.

11. What is the overall message this book teaches the child reading it?

Family is important. Being patient and tolerant of children's mistakes is important. Children like spending time with their mother. Fun.

12. For what age child would you recommend this book? Thumbs up or thumbs down? AND WHY?

Children age 3 – 5 might like this book. Thumbs up. I think kids would like reading about this child's adventures with his mom. It's fun to spend time with a caring parent and this book is a good example of that.

