

Days 1 & 2

Intro: What do trees and families have in common? Brainstorm a list and then be prepared to share. Possible answers may include:

- both grow & mature over time
- both are necessary for a healthy environment
- both provide needs (families: food, clothing, shelter and trees: nuts/fruit, shade and oxygen)
- both can be strong & supportive
- both can be fragile & breakable at times
- both can endure stress (families=crises & trees=elements in nature)
- both include many types/variations with unique qualities

Discuss: Just as there are many qualities that make a tree strong such as how deep the roots are, type of soil, exposure to natural elements like food, water, and sun there are also man-made disasters such as fires and natural disasters such as tornados and floods that can weaken it. Families are no different.

In fact researchers have found that the strongest of families possess six common traits: commitment, communication skills, appreciation, spiritual wellness, coping skills and spending time together.

Activity: To learn more about these traits we are going to jigsaw them in small groups. Each group will receive a trait and using class resources and the internet will create a poster helping us to learn more about the specific trait.

Posters should contain:

- Title: The trait you received
- Description: Explain the trait, what's it mean for the family

- Pictures illustrating what the trait looks like or sounds like within the family

Students will fill in the strong family traits chart as groups present their posters. Following the poster presentations have students create an acronym to help them remember the traits.

Day 3

Intro Activity: Practice identifying strong family traits by participating in the power point review activity.

Application: View an episode of Duck Dynasty and identify examples of strong family traits using the guide sheet as they are portrayed. Discuss examples found.

Homework: Complete the worksheet "How is My Family Strong?" assignment.

Day 4 & 5

Strong Family PSA Project: VOKI Style

First play the following YouTube clip as an example of what a PSA sounds like.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcINdmVzTOA>

Then have students create a PSA VOKI Style using their originally assigned trait and the website www.voki.com

Students will write their PSA and create an avatar to share it with the teacher and eventually the class. Students will choose the BEST PSA for each strong family trait.

