



GATA-MIA-MELODIA

Create a family album

Experience I

Overview	Create a family album.
Group size	All children in the group and their families
Learning objectives	Strengthen relationships within families; Develop a sense of belonging in children and their families; Strengthen the sense of identity.
Preparation, Materials	After reading the story, question the children about the characteristics of the cats in the story. Talk about their differences. Record sheets; Scratching material; Glue.
Others	You can choose to create a timeline or a video, with the same content.

Guidelines for educators

1. Read the story (large group).
2. Talk with the children about the characteristics of cats and the differences between the cats in the story. Make the connection to the characteristics of each child. Explore where those characteristics come from (e.g., family members) (large group).
3. Challenge each child to build an album. The album can consist of two parts: (1) "Who are we?": genealogy (father and mother) and physical and psychological characteristics; (2) "Family events": important moments in the life of each family, presented chronologically, e.g. parents' courtship, marriage, birth of children, trips together, family celebrations and birthday.

Ask the parents/family to fill in some of these moments, through drawings, descriptions and photos. Send the families the document, where they should give their input, and a detailed explanation of the purpose.

Some papers of the album can be filled in by the children in kindergarten (individual/family).

4. When all children have their album finished, ask them if they want to share it with their classmates. If the child does not want to participate, their decision should be respected (large group).

5. You can prepare an exhibition of the albums for the educational community.

Debriefing/Reflection

Debriefing

Possible exploration questions:

What distinguishes cats from other animals?

Are all the cats in the story the same? What are the differences?

What distinguishes you from cats?

Is everyone in the room alike? What do we have in common? What is different about us?

Where do your characteristics come from?

What are you like? What do you like? What don't you like?

Who is your family?

What is your family like?

What are the most important events you have experienced as a family?

Tips for the educator

Focus on the opportunity to talk with children about their identity, what makes them different from each other. Be receptive to working on diversity, including cultural diversity. Focus on building a sense of belonging for children and their families.

This can be an opportunity to create/strengthen relationships with families, so be open to providing dates, locations, and meetings.

This proposal should be adapted according to the characteristics of the group you are working with. Feel free to adapt or exclude steps.