

Abram Flores

**Helen Gordon Child Development Center: DragonFly Room**

**Exploring Family Diversity**

Purpose: Through the year, children in the Dragonfly room have seen various family structures in the content they read and are exposed too. This has often led to a natural curiosity that we have yet had the opportunity to explore as a class. Through this lesson, children will have the opportunity to explore various family dynamics and structures that may be different from that of their own, or similar.

How: To do this, I will start by reading a selection of books that are both directly related to family diversity, and indirectly related, this will get the children started in thinking about how these families are similar, or different than that of their own. These stories can be read either at a morning meeting, or even at the pre-nap book reading time. This can expand to having a set of questions I ask the kids to think about either before, or after reading.

Then?: The goal would be to take this exposure and get the children thinking further about their own families, and families around them. The idea is they see themselves as part of a family, no matter the shape. Taking this, the idea is the kids do some sort of art project, either drawing, painting, or clay sculpting their own families, and having a teacher document what the child says about their own family. **OR**, given the current interest in comic books and graphic novels, the kids can make their own book on their own family.

Possibilities: As per previous conversations, the kids could even interview other staff members in their family, and serve as further exposure to different family structures.

My Next Steps: Gather a collection of books to be the reading books for one of the weeks to come, and from there expand into the rest of the options. It is entirely possible that the children simply are not interested, which is fine and I will pivot.