

“Mommy and Daddy Love Me!”

Subject:

Emotional understanding and emotional competence.

Focus:

Gaining a concrete understanding of love.

Overview:

Emotions are complex and hard to understand. This combination of planned activities will help young children understand emotions better and will benefit their overall development.

Purpose:

To help children gain a concrete understanding of love.

Objectives:

- Help young children understand and express love better.
- Increase young children’s emotional competence.
- Increase young children’s social competence.

Resource Materials:

- *Love You Forever*, by Robert Munsch.
- Pictures of children and adults of different genders, races, and ethnic groups hugging, holding hands, and smiling at each other.

Activities and Procedures:

1. During language or English class, read and discuss the book by Robert Munsch.
2. During social studies class, look at and discuss the pictures.

Tying It All Together:

Love is an abstract concept. Elementary children may not be able to understand it fully because, according to Piaget, at this age they are only able to reason about concrete things. Showing children love in books and pictures can make this abstraction more concrete and help them understand it better.

Visit www.sagepub.com/gordonbiddle to access templates of these lesson plans.