

## Lesson: 12

### Key messages:

- Families are people who are brought closer through birth, relationships, and choice.
- Families are diverse in makeup and operate within a diverse set of values and rules.

### Activity Details

#### Victorian Curriculum

**Health & PE** Evaluate factors that shape identities, and analyse how individuals impact the identities of others VCHPEP142

Critic behaviours and contextual factors that influence the health and wellbeing of their communities VCHPEP151

**Capabilities** VCPSCSO048

**Time** 60 minutes

**Levels** 9 & 10

**Equipment**

- examples of TV show clips illustrating a range of diverse families
- whiteboard and markers

# Diverse, modern families

## Purpose

- To explore the concept of family and their diversity in both the modern and traditional context.
- To help students understand the reasons people come together to form families.

## Teaching Notes

This is meant to be an inclusive activity. While students are allowed to express their opinions, remind them that this needs to be done in a respectful manner.

## Procedure

- To introduce the concept of diversity in families, show the class a YouTube clip from a popular television show.
- Make a list of all the different types of family groupings that students are aware of that exist in their community.
- Discuss diverse family groupings. The following questions can be used as a guide:
  - What types of families are most often portrayed in the media? Why?
  - What family types are not often represented and why?
  - Is this changing? Can you think of some examples of non-traditional family types that are portrayed in the media?
  - How does society view families?
  - Is it always consistent with reality?
  - Is there a different type of family grouping that is considered normal in other cultures?
  - Is there a difference in the way families are now to the way they were two hundred years ago?
- Ask students to write a definition of a modern family. Write their suggestions on the board. The following questions can be used to guide discussion:
  - What are the things that bring a group of people together to form a family?
  - Do they have to be related by blood/marriage?
  - What keeps a family together as a unit?
  - Do they need to live under the same roof?

- What are the important things you would want in a family?
- Is the perfect family possible?
- If so, what would the perfect family look like?
- Why is it not possible? (This is to remind students that families can't be 'perfect' because people, no matter how good/loving/wonderful they are, are not perfect. Families change, have conflict, evolve, sometimes split.)