



Whether you find conversations about race challenging or consider it a part of your family's daily life, now, more than ever, it is a topic that cannot be avoided. To support these conversations, this week's Family Connections focus on ways to address race and the differences and similarities of humankind in a child-friendly, age-appropriate manner.



- Tell Me About Your Friends**
Various art materials (papers and crayons, markers, and/or paints) markers
- Image Collage**
Variety of child-appropriate magazines, ads, and/or catalogs, Photograph of your child, Scissors, glue (or tape)

Tell Me About Your Friends

- Ask your child to tell you about his friends.
- Share questions such as, "What are the names of your friends?" "What color is his/her hair?" "How tall is he/she?" "What color is his/her skin?" "What do you and your friends have in common? (i.e. "Do you both have one nose, two eyes, two ears, two legs, two arms?" and so on).
- Encourage your child to describe what he likes best about each friend.
- Next, invite your child to talk about the hobbies, interests, and/or games he enjoys with each friend.
- Pull out some art materials (markers, crayons, paints, papers, etc.) and encourage your child to draw a picture of at least one friend (perhaps your child will decide to illustrate himself playing a game with his friend). Place the picture in a prominent place so you and your child can refer to it throughout the week.

Image Collage

- Share several magazines, catalogs, and/or ads with your child, and work with her to find pictures of people who are alike and different (e.g., hair color, skin color, age, gender, clothing, and so on) from you and your family.
- Affix a photo of your child picture to sturdy paper. If you have one handy, include a picture of yourself, too.
- Go through each of the photos you collected from the magazines and invite your child to talk about the similarities and differences of each person (compared to you and your child). Upon doing so, affix the photographs to the paper, alongside your personal photo(s).
- Talk openly about the similarities and differences, always bringing the child back to the understanding that while our skin, eye, and hair color may be different, we are all human beings, part of the human race, living together (whether near or far apart) in the world.