

Sharing stories about families can connect relatives across generations and across the miles. Consider a virtual storytime for cousin groups or ask that uncle everyone wants to sit next to at your family gathering to stage a read-aloud session for your kids. Here are a handful of books that celebrate family.

**“All the World” by Liz Garton Scanlon and Marla Frazee (2009)**

Nanas, papas, cousins and kin share a full day of fun in this gentle and poetic picture book celebrating time together and the smallest delights in our great big world.

**“An ABC of Families” by Abbey Williams and Paulina Morgan (2021)**

A bright and inclusive board book that affirms a range of family arrangements like adoption, blended families and foster families. “O is for Others,” mindful that our circles of loved ones extend beyond our blood relatives.

**“Frenemies in the Family: Famous Brothers and Sisters Who Butted Heads and Had Each Other’s Backs” by Kathleen Krull and illustrated by Maple Lam (2018)**

This nonfiction collection of 15 famous sibling sets covers royalty, musicians, politicians, artists and more, with humorous illustrations that lighten even historically darker sibling episodes.

**“Going Down Home with Daddy” by Kelly Starling Lyons and Daniel Minter (2019)**

An award winning, intricately illustrated picture book in which Alan worries about what gift to share with his extended family when they gather down South for their annual reunion on his great-grandmother’s land.

**“Grown-ups Never Do That” by Davide Cali and Benjamin Chaud (2019)**

Grown-ups NEVER complain, or lose their tempers, make mistakes or burp. Right? Whimsical illustrations with a child tucked onto every page spotting or spying on adults behaving badly make this dual-narrative picture book a strong pick—especially for caregivers who might need to own up to their own excess screen time!

**“Mi papi tiene una moto” de Isabel Quintero y Zeke Peña (2019)**

As Daisy Ramona rides on the back of her dad’s motorcycle, she tours her changing community and connects with the history of the area and her love for her family. Also available in English as “My Papi Has a Motorcycle.”

**“The Relatives Came” by Cynthia Rylant and Stephen Gammell (1985)**

This modern classic follows relatives as they pile into their station wagon for a road trip north from Virginia, settling in for a joyous, but crowded, reunion that lasts several weeks over the summer.

**“What is Given From the Heart” by Patricia C. McKissack and April Harrison (2019)**

A mother and son in the midst of a very hard year find a way to support a family of strangers who have lost everything in this poignant picture book reminding us that what is given from the heart reaches the heart.

After some bonding over family-centered books, use this list as an inspiration to connect with your loved ones—whether they are born family or chosen—with one of these activities:

- Have your child interview an elder about their childhood and document the conversation with a recording or notes to revisit in years to come.
- Write a letter to a loved one who lives outside of your home. An old-fashioned letter brightens everyone’s day!
- Design a family crest or coat of arms that represents your crew. You might include your pets and favorite activities.