Help children explore their family history. Draw a simple family tree and talk about the people on it. Share stories about family members. Invite grandparents, aunts, and uncles, and other close family friends to share stories. Kids especially love hearing what people in their family were like at their age.

Make time to connect with those in your circle, near and far, through a meal, an outing, a call, or sending notes or messages. Encourage the special bond that can develop between cousins or the children of family friends who are similar in age, especially for only children.

Have your child pick out schoolwork or art samples to share over e-mail, on video chat, or at a gathering with loved ones. Invite family members or close family friends to school events.

Consider these ways to enrich children’s relationships with other people in your family or close circle:

- **Help** children explore their family history. Draw a simple family tree and talk about the people on it. Share stories about family members.
- **Invite** grandparents, aunts, and uncles, and other close family friends to share stories. Kids especially love hearing what people in their family were like at their age.
- **Make time** to connect with those in your circle, near and far, through a meal, an outing, a call, or sending notes or messages.
- **Encourage** the special bond that can develop between cousins or the children of family friends who are similar in age, especially for only children.
- **Have** your child pick out schoolwork or art samples to share over e-mail, on video chat, or at a gathering with loved ones.
- **Invite** family members or close family friends to school events.

This activity is inspired by Sesame Street in Communities activity, “All in the Family.”

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**Family Reading Tip: Encourage Your Baby’s Coos**

Encourage your baby’s coos, growls and gurgles. These sounds are your baby’s way of communicating with you, and are important first steps toward speech. Encourage attempts to mimic you. The more your baby practices making sounds, the clearer they will become. When you make sounds back at them or engage them in conversation, you’re helping build their brains! Keep up the moos and grunts!

Tip excerpt from Colorin Colorado “Tips for Parents of Babies.”