

ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENT OPTIONS



FOR CHILDREN FROM NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILIES

FOR SOME (NOT ALL) CHILDREN FROM NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILIES, CERTAIN SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS TEND TO TRIGGER BIG EMOTIONS THAT COULD PUT CHILDREN IN A POSITION OF HAVING TO SHARE MORE THAN THEY ARE COMFORTABLE WITH SHARING, EITHER WITH PEERS OR STAFF. TEACHERS – CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS AS ADAPTATIONS TO YOUR SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS. FEEL FREE TO EMAIL US (INFO@WISAPSP.ORG) IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WONDER ABOUT THE REASONS FOR THESE ALTERNATIVES.

FAMILY TREE

Instead of the traditional family tree, use these options:

- Family Forest: Each tree can represent a different member of the family (including non-biological members).
- Family Neighborhood: Each home can represent a member of the family.

BRING A BABY PICTURE

Instead of bringing in a baby picture, use these options:

- Picture of child at any younger age.
- Picture of child during a special event or holiday.

SUPERSTAR/VIP/STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Instead of focusing on the child's life story during this week, use this option:

- Have the student share information with choices such as interests, pets at home, favorites, and sports/hobbies.

NAME GAMES

Instead of focusing on the history of how their name was chosen, use these options:

- Have the student look up the meaning of their name and discuss that.
- Have the student interview someone else about their name and the meaning behind it.

CULTURAL/ETHNIC HERITAGE

Instead of having a child look at their own culture/ethnic heritage, use these options:

- Choose a country of interest to the student.
- Choose a culture of interest to the student.