

Too

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READER ACTIVITY GUIDE

Celebrating all the people who make a family

Read together. Wonder together. Talk about what matters.

FOR GROWN-UPS -Why This Story?

Joy has two dads. Maya has two moms. Other children in Too have moms and dads, stepparents, grandparents, and blended families.

But the story doesn't stop to explain or defend any of them.

Instead, everybody goes to Central Park.

They eat ice cream. Pull wagons. Fly kites. Play. Picnic. Make messes. Laugh. And eat entirely too much popcorn.

The families are different. The childhood is wonderfully ordinary. And by the end of the day, the children discover there are plenty of things you can have “too much” of—but never too much love.

Too gives children an opportunity to recognize that *family describes connection and care, not one required arrangement of people.*

Talk About It Together

Before reading

- What makes someone part of a family?
- Do all families look the same?
- Who are some of the people who take care of you?
- Can friends sometimes feel like family?

After reading

- What different families did you notice in the story?
- What did the families have in common?
- Why do you think the book is called Too?
- What did everyone have too much of?
- What can you never have too much of?
- What is something you love doing with your family?
- If we drew your family, who would you want in the picture?

A NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

Traditional family-tree activities can unintentionally ask children to fit complicated, blended, adoptive, LGBTQ+, multigenerational, foster, chosen, or single-parent families into a structure that doesn't describe their lives.

This activity deliberately isn't a tree. There is no required place for a mother or father. No predetermined number of parents. No “correct” shape. *The child decides who belongs.*

In the Classroom

Create a class display titled “*Families Are Made of People Who Care.*”

Children can draw a family activity rather than diagram family relationships: cooking, reading, playing, traveling, celebrating, walking the dog, watching movies, or simply being together.

This lets children share family without requiring them to disclose information they would rather keep private.

THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE ME

Families don't have one shape. Neither does yours. Draw, write, or add the people who belong in your heart around the word "ME."

Someone who takes care of me... Someone who makes me laugh... Someone I can talk to... Someone I love spending time with... Someone who helps me... Someone I love...

You decide who belongs. It could be parents, siblings, grandparents, stepparents, cousins, guardians, friends, neighbors—or even a beloved pet.

My family is special because_____.

ME

There is no wrong way to draw a family made with love.

NEVER TOO MUCH

TOO MUCH... OR NEVER TOO MUCH?

Circle your answer.

Ice cream?

Maybe too much! Never too Much!

Popcorn?

Definitely possible. Never too Much!

Tickling?

Sometimes! Never too Much!

Hugs?

Only when someone wants one. Yes/No

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

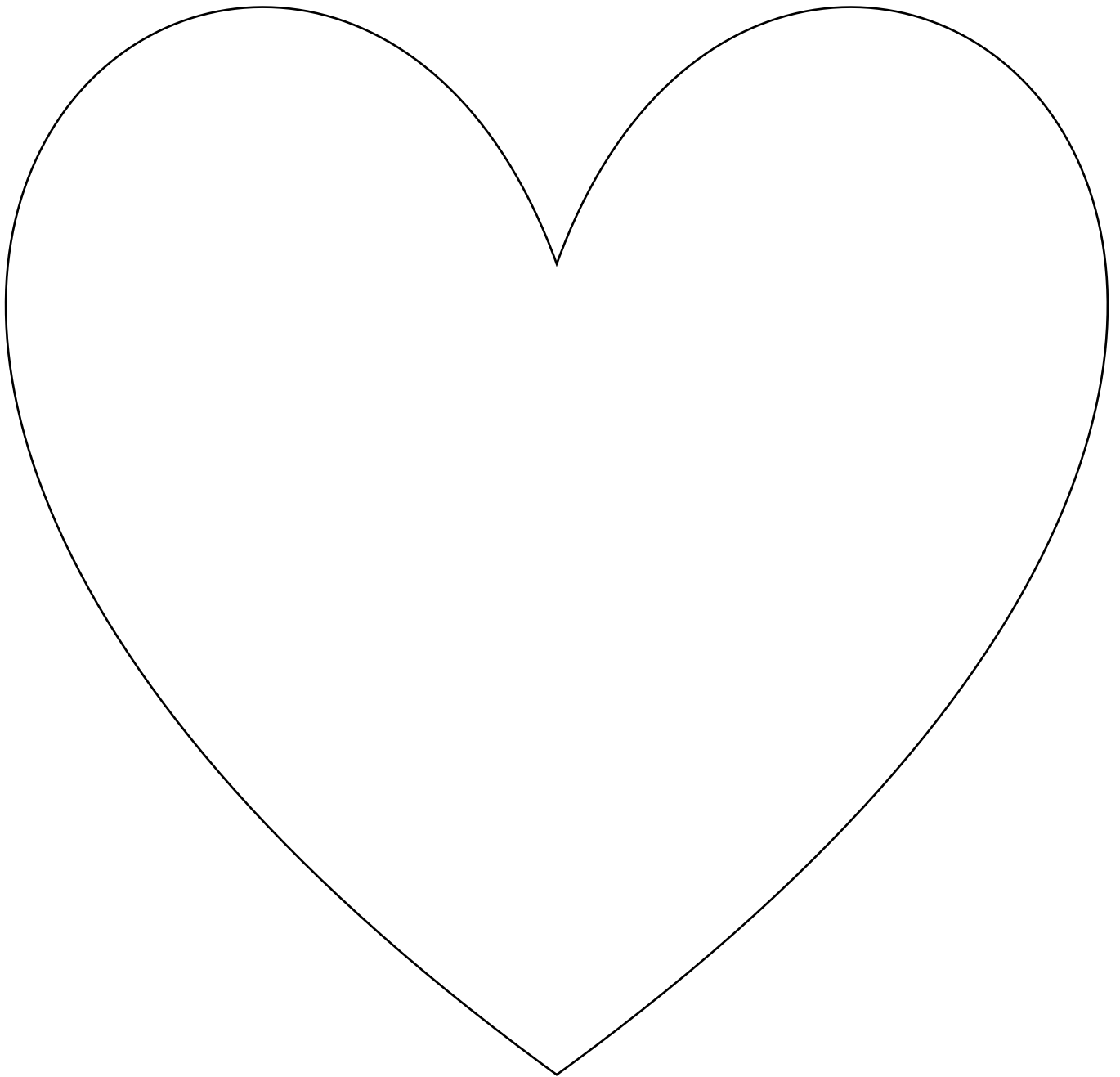
Something silly I've had too much of:

Something my family does a lot:

Something that makes us laugh:

Something I love about my family:

Fill this heart with things your family can never have too much of. Things like: Love • listening • laughter • kindness • patience • stories • time together • encouragement



Different families. Same belonging. Never too much love.