

The Family

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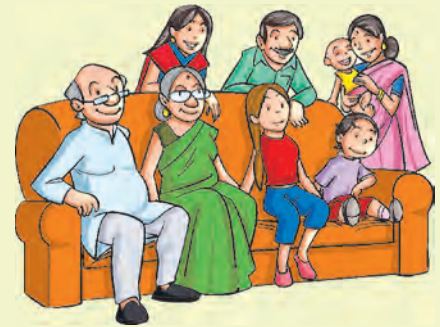
Points to Know :

- Family
- What Family Teaches Us?
- Family Tree
- Whom Do I Look like?
- Different Types of Families
- People in The Family
- Meeting Time



Getting Started

In early times, large families were the norm. Grandparents, parents, their children, uncles, aunts and their children, all lived together.



But times changed and today, small families have become the norm.

Family

A family comprises of a group of persons related to each other. Generally, it has grandparents, parents and their children living together. The family members live in the same house. But in the present times, some of the family members may live in another city or country.



Different Types of Families

On the basis of its size, the family may be one of the following types :

Small Family

A small family has parents and their one or two children living together in the same house. It is also called a **nuclear family**.

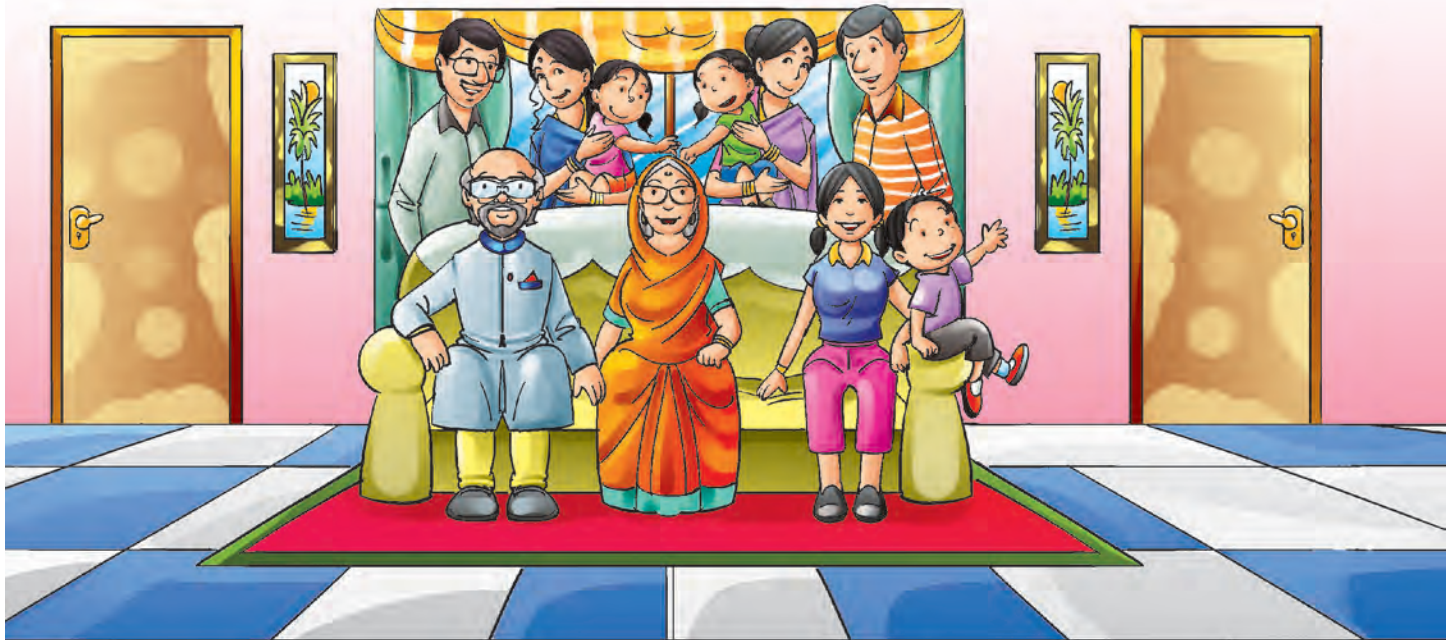


Big Family

A big family has grandparents, parents and their more than two children living together in the same house.

Joint Family

A joint family has grandparents, parents, their children, uncles, aunts and their children, all living together in the same house. Such a family is the **largest**.



Extended Family

Some family members may shift out with their wives and children to a different house or a city. But they do not cease to be members of the same family. They are bound by their relationship and family values. It is an **extended** family.

Single-parent Family

Some families may have children living with either their father or mother. Such families are **single-parent family**.



Activity

Which type of a family do you belong to? Write any five things about your family which make you feel lucky to be its part.

What Family Teaches Us

Everyone is born and brought up in a family. We all respect and emulate our elders. We also observe and follow our familial customs and traditions and the values our family teaches us. Some benefits accorded to us by our family are as follows.

- ❖ Our family provides us love, care, attention and protection.
- ❖ The family provides everything within their means to their child. Its needs are taken care of and it is given education.
- ❖ Proper moral values are instilled in the child by his family.

Such values shape the personality of the child. Some such values taught by the family are :

- ❖ Respecting elders.
- ❖ Loving and respecting other family members.
- ❖ Being sensitive to the need of others.
- ❖ Being kind and helpful to others.





Activity

Write down all the things which you do for your family members :

People in the Family

Family members are the people living together in a family. Besides the parents, family members include paternal grandparents, maternal grandparents, various uncles, aunts and cousins.



Things to Know

- ◆ Brother and sister are called **siblings**. Children of the same set of parents are called their **offsprings** or **scions**.

In Hindi, father's elder brother is addressed as 'Tauji' while the younger brother is addressed as 'Chachaji'. Mother's brother is called 'Mamaji'. But in English, all of these are called 'Uncle'.

Family Tree

As all the family members are related to each other in any way, they are called **relatives**. They all form a pattern of relationships called the **family tree**.

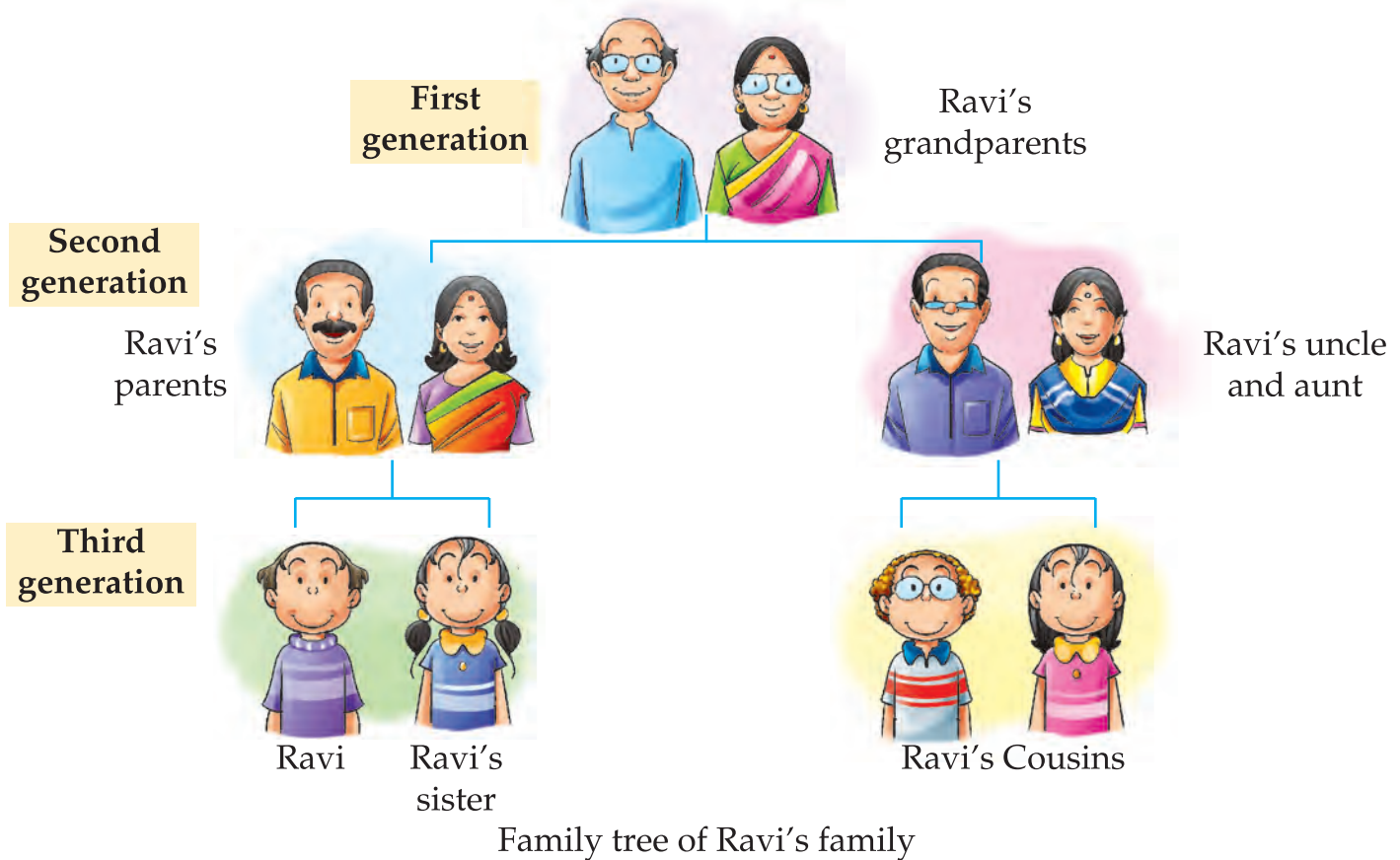
We know that a family is a dynamic unit whose size keeps on changing with time. Whenever new members are added to it, its size increases. So while making or studying a family tree, remember the following :

- ❖ The family tree shows many generations of people living together as members of the same family. A **generation** comprises of people born around the same time.



- ❖ Grandparents are at the top in a family tree as they are the first generation of the family.
- ❖ They are followed by the second generation comprising of parents, uncles and aunts.
- ❖ The third generation, comprising of children, comes the last.

Observe the family tree given below to understand the pattern of relationships. It shows Ravi's joint family.



Meeting Family Members

It's not possible that family members meet every day. Many of them may be living at different places. Such people meet on special occasions like a birthday, a wedding in the family or festivals. Interaction between family members brings them close and reaffirms the bond between them.



Family members celebrating birthday

Whom Do I Look Like?

Members of the same family may resemble each other or may have similar physical features. Many a times, they may have similar habits as well.

This resemblance may be exhibited in complexion, colour of the eyes, height etc.

Besides similarity in physical features, family members may also exhibit same habits, interests and gestures.

Many a times, two babies are born to a mother at the same time. Such babies look quite alike and are called **identical twins**.



Things to Know

- ◆ Hereditary features are passed down from one generation to another.

Words to know

- Generation** : Family members born around the same time.
Paternal : Relatives from the father's side
Maternal : Relatives from the mother's side
Frequently : Again and again



Revision

- ❖ Family comprises of a group of people related to each other.
- ❖ Based on its size, a family may be small, big, joint, extended or single-parent.
- ❖ Our family teaches us basic values of life. It is our first school.
- ❖ All family members are related to each other.
- ❖ The family tree shows the pattern of relationships formed by the family members.
- ❖ Members of the same family may resemble each other.

Exercise

A. Tick (✓) the correct answer :

1. Large families were the norm in :

(a) earlier times

(b) present times

(c) None of these



2. It is the largest family :
 (a) small family (b) big family (c) joint family
3. Single parent family has children living with their :
 (a) father (b) mother (c) Any of these
4. Family teaches us :
 (a) traditions (b) good values (c) Both of these
5. In a family tree, these are at the top :
 (a) grandparents (b) parents (c) children

B. Fill in the blanks :

1. In early times, _____ were the norm.
2. A _____ comprises of a group of people related to each other.
3. Everyone is _____ and _____ in a family.
4. Brother and sister are called _____.
5. Children of the same set of parents are called their _____ or _____.

C. State whether True or False :

1. Family members meet every day. _____
2. A nuclear family has only parents and their children. _____
3. A family tree shows relationships formed by family members. _____
4. A family without a parent is called an incomplete family. _____
5. Our family teaches us basic values. _____

D. Short Answer Questions :

1. Name different types of a family.
2. What do you understand by a 'relative'?
3. What is a single-parent family?
4. When do family members meet?
5. How many generations are shown by a family tree?

E. Long Answer Questions :

1. What is a family?
2. How are a nuclear and a joint family different from each other?



3. What does our family teach us?
4. What is an extended family?
5. What do you understand by a family tree?

 **Activities**

A. Whom do you look like? Tick (✓) below the person with whom your features resembles :

Features	Mother	Father	Grandfather		Grandmother	
			Maternal	Paternal	Maternal	Paternal
Eyes (colour)						
Nose						
Hair (colour)						
Hair (curly/straight)						

B. Draw your family tree in the space given below and also mark the three generation. Show it in your class.

C. Find out about any two customs or traditions that are being followed in your family for many years. Ask your grandparents for the reasons behind them.

