Family Connection Activity

And Then Came You

by Christina Shawn

A heartwarming story about change, growth, and making room for more love.



WHY THIS MATTERS

In this story, families grow and change in unexpected ways. While change can feel uncomfortable at first, the story reminds us that our hearts can grow to make room for new people, new experiences, and new kinds of love.

ACTIVITY: MY GROWING FAMILY TREE

MATERIALS

- Paper
- Crayons, markers, or pencils



1 DRAW YOUR TREE

Have your child draw a tree with branches on their paper.



2 ADD YOUR PEOPLE

On each branch, have your child draw or write:

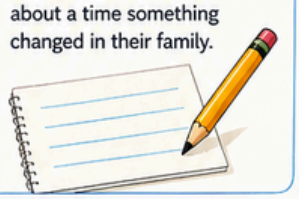
- Family members
- Friends
- Pets
- Anyone who brings love into their life

Encourage them to see that families can grow in many ways.

3 WRITING CONNECTION "MY HEART GREW WHEN..."

Have your child complete one of the following:

- "My heart grew when _____ joined my family."
- "At first I felt _____, but now I feel _____."
- Write 2 to 4 sentences about a time something changed in their family.



4 CONNECT TO THE BOOK

Talk about how the family changes in the story.

Ask:

- How did the character feel about change at first?
- What helped them accept the change?
- How did love grow in their family?



ACTIVITY EXTENSION: MAKING ROOM FOR MORE LOVE

Have your child draw or write one way they can:



Welcome someone new | Show kindness during a change | Help someone feel included

FAMILY TALK

- What changes have we experienced as a family?
- How can we support each other when things feel different?
- What are the "silver linings" of change?



WHAT YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING

- Empathy and emotional awareness
- Understanding change and growth
- Writing and self expression
- Family connection and belonging



FAMILY TIP

Remind your child that even when change feels hard, love grows with us.

Our hearts always have room for more.

Families may grow and change, but love grows too.

Every change. Every challenge. Every heart has room to grow.

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