

Father's Day

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. When is Father's Day?
2. What are some other words for "father"?
3. What do children do for their fathers on this day?
4. How are dads different from moms?



B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.
Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. stepfather | a) <u>a person who acts like</u> a father but may have no relation to the family |
| 2. father-in-law | b) a person who previously served in the armed forces |
| 3. father figure | c) a man who remarries and acts as a father to his new spouse's kids |
| 4. invent | d) dead |
| 5. veteran | e) to create, to come up with a new idea |
| 6. deceased | f) to put together, to mix |
| 7. official | g) a thing you do in a similar way at a similar time of the year |
| 8. combine | h) a marriage partner (a husband or wife) |
| 9. tradition | i) a spouse's father |
| 10. spouse | j) decided by people of authority (often in writing) |

Handwritten red letters: C, i, e, b, a, d, f, g, h

Reading

1. Father's Day is a day for **celebrating fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, fathers-in-law, and other father figures.** In North America and in the UK, it takes place on the third Sunday of June. Other countries celebrate dads on other days.
2. A **woman from Washington State invented Father's Day in 1908.** Sonora Smart Dodd's mother died in childbirth. Since Sonora didn't have a mother to celebrate in church on Mother's Day, she wanted to celebrate her **father.** Her dad, William Jack Smart, was **a single father** with six kids. He was also a Civil War **veteran.**
3. **Sonora chose to celebrate Father's Day during her father's birth month. Each June, she invited people to wear a red rose in honour of a living or deceased father.** She **convinced the local government to make Father's Day a local holiday.**
4. Many American presidents tried to make Father's Day **official.** In the 1920s and '30s, some people tried to **combine** Mother's Day and Father's Day into "Parents' Day." Many businesses did not like this idea. After World War II, many Americans wanted fathers to have their own special day. In 1966, President Johnson **declared the third Sunday in June to be Father's Day.** **President Nixon made it official in 1972.** This was almost 60 years after the first official Mother's Day.
5. Children of all ages celebrate their dads on Father's Day. Some make **cards and handmade gifts.** Others take **their fathers out for special meals or events.** **Most dads prefer spending time with their kids than receiving store-bought gifts. Going fishing, playing a round of golf, or catching a baseball game is the perfect Father's Day** for many dads. Some families have Father's Day **traditions** that they do every year.
6. Like Sonora's father, many dads today are the **primary caregivers in** the family. Some are fathers to their own children and stepfathers to others. Many have an equal role to play alongside a **spouse.** As fathers age, they continue to play an important role in the lives of their adult children and grandchildren.
7. Happy Father's Day!

person who is primarily responsible for the child (support, raising the child)

Comprehension

Answer the following questions below.

1. What is the reading mainly about?

2. Why does the reading mention roses?

3. What is paragraph 4 about?

4. How do children celebrate their dads on Father's Day? Give two examples from the reading.

5. What types of fathers are mentioned in the reading? List them.

Vocabulary Review

A. Comparison Chart

Which types of fathers do/did you have? Write a point form answer in each field (e.g., *have two, deceased, Uncle Jon, etc.*). Then interview a classmate and write his/her answers in the chart.

Example:

- A: Do you have a grandfather?
 B: Yes, I have one grandfather. Do you?
 A: No. Both of my grandfathers are deceased*.

#	Words	Me	Classmate
1	father (biological/adoptive/foster)		
2	father-in-law		
3	stepfather		
4	grandfather		
5	father figure		

***Deceased:**

The word "deceased" is an adjective meaning *not alive anymore*.

- My father is deceased.

It is also a noun meaning *people who are not alive anymore*.

- We honour the deceased.

Deceased Vs. Diseased

The words *deceased* and *diseased* sound and look similar but have very different meanings. Practise the pronunciation and spelling with your teacher.

Vocabulary Review cont.

B. Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences using vocabulary from page 1.

You may need to change the word forms.

1. On Father's Day, we honour male _____ from the armed forces.
2. My son _____ a new golf swing called "Do-It-Like-Daddy."
3. It's _____ ! We're getting a dog for our dad this Father's Day.
4. We usually _____ my dad's birthday and Father's Day into one celebration since they are only a week apart.
5. Sadly, my own father is _____. I'll make a card for my father-in-law, though.

Discussion

1. Do you celebrate Father's Day? If yes, how?
2. Does your family have many traditions at get-togethers?
If yes, what are they?
3. Why do people spend more money on Mother's Day than on Father's Day?
4. What is/was your father's/father figure's favorite food/sport/activity?
5. How have fathers' roles changed in the past 25–50 years?

Grammar Review

CAPITALIZATION

A. Reference

We always capitalize the word "Father" in "Father's Day" because names of holidays are proper nouns. (The word "Day" is also part of the holiday name.) When referring to people by name, common nouns also become proper nouns. Here are some examples:

#	Common Nouns	Proper Nouns
1	My father is funny.	When did Father become so funny?
2	I love my grandpa .	I guess Grandpa is more of a father figure.
3	Is your dad coming for Father's Day?	I invited Dad to go fishing.

My Old Man

The idiom "my old man" means "my father." Here is a list of English names people have for their old man:

- Dad
- Daddy
- Da
- Pop
- Pops
- Papa
- Pa
- Father (*formal*)
- Sir (*traditional*)

B. Practice

Complete the sentences using vocabulary from page 1. You may need to change the word forms.

1. My _____ is away this Father's Day.
(Dad / dad)
2. What do you want to get _____ for _____ Day?
(Dad / dad) (Father's / father's)
3. Mom said _____ called. He wants us to go golfing.
(Granddad / granddad)
4. My _____ was a war veteran. We're taking him to the cemetery
(old man / Old Man)
to visit his best friend's grave. We're also visiting _____ grave.
(Grandma's / grandma's)
5. You can come to our house for Father's _____ .
(Day / day)
My _____ thinks of you as his kid anyway.
(Father / father)

Listening

Fill in the blanks as you listen to the recording.

1. Father's Day is a day for celebrating fathers, grandfathers, _____, father-in-laws, and other father _____. In North America and in the UK, it takes place on the third Sunday of June. Other countries celebrate dads on other days.
2. A woman from Washington State _____ Father's Day in 1908. Sonora Smart Dodd's mother died in childbirth. Since Sonora didn't have a mother to celebrate in church on Mother's Day, she wanted to celebrate her father. Her dad, William Jack Smart, was a single father with six kids. He was also a Civil War _____.
3. Sonora chose to celebrate Father's Day during her father's birth month. Each June, she invited people to wear a red rose in _____ of a living or _____ father. She convinced the local government to make Father's Day a local holiday.
4. Many American presidents tried to make Father's Day _____. In the 1920s and '30s, some people tried to _____ Mother's Day and Father's Day into "Parents' Day." Many businesses did not like this idea. After World War II, many Americans wanted fathers to have their own special day. In 1966, President Johnson declared the third Sunday in June to be Father's Day. President Nixon made it official in 1972. This was almost 60 years after the first official Mother's Day.
5. Children of all ages celebrate their dads on Father's Day. Some make cards and handmade _____. Others take their fathers out for special meals or events. Most dads prefer spending time with their kids than receiving store-bought gifts. Going fishing, playing a round of golf, or catching a baseball game is the perfect Father's Day for many dads. Some families have Father's Day _____ that they do every year.
6. Like Sonora's father, many dads today are the primary caregivers in the family. Some are fathers to their own children and stepfathers to others. Many have an equal _____ to play alongside a _____. As fathers age, they continue to play an important role in the lives of their adult children and grandchildren.
7. Happy _____ ' _____ Day!

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students learn about the history of Father's Day. They learn the words for different types of fathers and discuss what makes dads special.

LEVEL: Low Int

TIME: 1–1.5 hours

TAGS: Father's Day, father, dad, fathers, holiday, family, Mother's Day

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

Discuss as a class, in small groups, or in pairs. Answers will vary.

1. In many countries, it is on the third Sunday of June.
2. Answers will vary.
Some answers include *dad, daddy, papa, pa, and old man.*
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. c | 3. a | 5. b | 7. j | 9. g |
| 2. i | 4. e | 6. d | 8. f | 10. h |

Reading (and/or Listening)

Read individually, in small groups, or as a class. You can also play the listening as your students read along. A gap-fill version of the reading is available on page 7. Help your students with vocabulary and expressions that they are unfamiliar with.

Comprehension

1. The reading is mainly about the origin and traditions associated with Father's Day in North America.
2. The inventor of Father's Day suggested that people wear red roses to honour their fathers.
3. Paragraph 4 is mainly about how Father's Day became an official holiday in the US.
4. Children celebrate their dads by giving cards and gifts and spending time with them. Examples include taking them golfing or fishing or going to a baseball game.
5. The reading mentions fathers, stepfathers, father-in-laws, grandfathers, and father figures.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Vocabulary Review

A. COMPARISON CHART

Have students complete the chart using point form. Then have them interview a classmate. Help students distinguish between the words *deceased* and *diseased*.

B. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

1. veterans
2. invented
3. official
4. combine
5. deceased

Discussion

Discuss these questions as a class or in small groups.

Grammar Review

A. REFERENCE

Review the common error concerning proper nouns vs. common nouns and family members/names.

B. PRACTICE

1. dad
2. Dad, Father's
3. Granddad
4. old man, Grandma's
5. Day, father

Listening

1. stepfathers, figures
2. invented, veteran
3. honour, deceased
4. official, combine
5. gifts, traditions
6. role, spouse
7. Father's