

**Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.**

## Making Father's Day meaningful

**While traditionally a day where children thank their dads for their love and dedication, it's a good opportunity to celebrate the diverse families attending your setting.**

These top tips will support you and your staff to consider how significant males in children's lives are welcomed and acknowledged in your setting.

1. From the time that a family registers their child, significant adults in each child's life, and the role they play, should be known and understood. Through registration forms, settling information, home visits, communication agreements and so on, ensure that the key person gathers accurate information about all the adults, both male and female, who contribute to a child's life, including those who may be absent from the family home
2. Plan for a number of events over the year where male parents and carers are purposefully included, not just for Father's Day. Don't assume dads and other male carers won't enjoy activities such as cooking or craft or that they are interested in sports and gardening. Create a questionnaire to find out the wishes of male carers such as the best times to hold events so they can attend, the sorts of activities they would like to share with their child and other ways they may like to be involved in their child's time at the setting
3. Ensure books available for children in the environment encourage discussions about their dads (whether present or absent), other significant males and different types of families to ensure that children have the opportunity to talk about their own situation



Examples include:

- The family book by Todd Parr
  - Party for dads by Adam and Charlotte Gullain
  - Daddy do my hair: Beth's twists by Tola Okoqwu
  - How to babysit a grandad by Jean Reagan.
4. Review the feedback from your social media communications to identify how many males are engaged. For example, on your Facebook page you will be able to access information about the

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gender and age of those who have liked and are following your page. Use this information to consider how to target males, such as considering when posts are released, background colours, wording and content.

## NDNA products to support you with these tips

- Factsheet: [Parents Guide to Home Learning](#)
- Online course: [Transitions: Supporting children through change](#)
- Online course: [Home learning environment](#)

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Find more resources at [www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna](http://www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna)