# 1st Grade – My Family is Nebraska! – Lesson 1

**Grade 1**

**Theme:** My Family is Nebraska!

**Lesson Title:** Happy Birthday, Nebraska!

**Literacy Strategies:** graphic organizers, note-making, oral discussions, think-pair-share

**Early Childhood Literacy Strategies:** language modeling, vocabulary development, think aloud, nonlinguistic representations, modeled and shared writing, guided writing, descriptive feedback

**Suggested lesson length and implementation:** 3-5 days in September

### Objectives / Learning Targets
- I can identify my family’s ages by writing the age on the questionnaire sheet and add them together on the birthday recording sheet.
- I can interview my family and gather information about our family.
- I can identify how my family is important to Nebraska.

### Background Information
Students should know what a birthday is and why we celebrate them. (Note that all students will not celebrate birthdays. Students who do not celebrate their personal birthday can approach the lesson from the point of view of Nebraska’s birthday and/or simply the ages of family members). Students will need to know how to add numbers together to get a sum.

### Materials & Resources
- Birthday recording sheet (see attachment)
- All About My Family questionnaire (see attachment)
- Internet access for multiple activities/videos

### Content Standards/Indicators

**Social Studies:**
- SS 1.4.5 Students will develop historical research skills.
- SS 1.4.5.c Gather historical information about their lives (e.g., have a conversation with a family member)

**ELA:**
- LA 1.2.1.g Persevere in writing tasks of various length and complexity
- LA 1.3.1.a Communicate ideas clearly in a manner suited to the purpose and setting

### Procedures & Routines

**Gradual Release of Instruction**

- **Modeled (M)**
- **Shared (S)**
- **Guided (G)**
- **Independent (I)**

**Anticipatory Set:** (day 1) Sesame Street Happy Birthday Video (5 minutes) - video can be found under district social studies lesson resources. This would also be a great time to introduce the website www.ne150.org and explain that we will be referring back to this website to learn more about Nebraska and how our families are an important part of our state.

**Whole Group:** (day 1) The teacher will build excitement about Nebraska’s upcoming 150th Birthday this school year with students by showing the “Nebraska’s 150th Anniversary” countdown on the bottom of the ne150.org. Teacher should explain, “Since we all live in Nebraska with our families, ‘My family is Nebraska.’ We are going to do a project to help us discover more about our own families and what connects us to Nebraska...” (M) Teacher will show students the questionnaire and inform the students they will have ‘homework’ to interview their families and gather data on each family member’s age. (M) Students will need to record this data on the Questionnaire sheet provided. (S/G) Have students practice interviewing a classmate to ask questions similar to the family questionnaire. Provide a cooperative learning structure to practice. (I) Ask students to bring to school a family photo to be displayed along with their birthday recording.
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Sheet - students may draw a picture of their families if a photo is not brought to school. Teachers should explain to students that the purpose of this activity is to see how close each student can get to 150 when adding their family member’s ages together. (S,G) Teachers should fill out the "All About My Family" questionnaire in front of the students to show them what they will do at home. (M) Teacher will go through each question at a time "We live in...", "My families ages are...", "We have ___ people in our family." Before the teacher completes the final question: "We like to ___ in Nebraska." the teacher should pull up the website, visitnebraska.com to show the students all the various activities and sites there are to see and do in Nebraska. Teacher should model picking their favorite Nebraska activity and filling in the blank. (M)

There will be some time between introducing this activity and getting all of the questionnaires back from students.

(day 2) Engagement Activity: (to be used as opener when teacher is ready to begin filling out the birthday recording sheet) Count to 100 Video (3 minute opener/brain break) (S)

(day 2) Whole Group: The teacher will model filling out the birthday recording sheet with the students. "My families age combined is..." and "Nebraska will be ___ on..." (M) Teacher should have their questionnaire in front of them to show the family age data that will be needed to fill out the recording sheet. (M) Teachers should model each part of the birthday recording sheet for their students, then ask students to begin filling out their recording sheet to be displayed with their family photo on the bulletin board. (M, S) Teachers can determine their student’s abilities to add the family member’s ages up on their own or offer assistance as needed. (G, I)

Either this same day or another day, the teacher should make some time for a share out of the student’s data they collected. The teacher can start with asking the students to turn to their elbow partner and share their family data with their partner. (G) Students should take turns listening and responding to their partners' data. (S) Teachers can be creative as to how they would like to display their class data. The class could create a graph to show their data, they could write about similarities and differences within their class and display their writing, etc. Teachers should create a visual for students to refer back to and acknowledge their class as a whole. (M, S)

Summary

The students will trace "March 1st" and "I am Nebraska" on their own. (I) The teacher will collect these and display them on a bulletin board with student’s family pictures. BE CREATIVE. :)

Extension Activities and Resources

All about my Family Questionnaire
Birthday Recording Sheet
ne150.org
visitnebraska.com
Name:__________________________

My family's age combined is ____________________________ = ________

(add each family member's age together) (total age)

Nebraska will be ________ on March 1st.

We are Nebraska!

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All About My Family Questionnaire

Fill the blank

1. We live in _____________________________.
   (City, State)

2. My family’s ages are________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   (list names of family members and age)

3. We have ____ people in my family.
   (number)

4. We like to ______________________________
   (activity)
   in Nebraska.

Name: ____________________________

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