

Spirit Play Story Lessons

Families All Matter - Adoption

Materials:

- gold underlay
- Baby doll or image
- Grown up dolls or image
- Case worker doll or image

Hmmm...I wonder what this is?

Spread out the gold underlay.

Sometimes in our Spirit Play stories we use the color gold to talk about a great mystery. Today's story comes from the middle of a great mystery. One day a little child was born.

(bring out baby doll or image- cherish and look at it)

Like all little children, this baby was a special gift to the world. This child had beautiful fingers and toes and a soft tickly belly. This child had it's mother's dimples and it's father's ears. When this child was born there was a wondering about who it might be and become.

In this story the Mother of our precious and special child weren't sure she could give this child everything it needed.

Place two adult dolls or figures on the underlay with the baby and a third doll or figure for a case worker. Have them interact.

The Mother felt sad and worried. She decided to talk to an adoption agency. She told the case worker, "I love my child more than words can describe, but I worry we can't give him everything he needs to be healthy and well. Can you help us?" So the case worker said, "Let's see what we can do." The Mother decided the best thing was to place the child in an adoption. It is a mystery why this happens and every time a child begins it's journey separate from it's parents, it is a sad and curious thing.

Remove the parent figures. Put them behind your back or in the basket

It is a mysterious thing. What might happen to this child?

Pause. Rock the baby and smile at it.

Let's cuddle our sweet child and hear some more of the story. Sometimes what happens in the middle of a mystery is really quite wonderful, complicated and beautiful.

One day two other grown ups were sitting in the middle of the mystery.

Place two parent dolls or figures (ambiguous gender) on the underlay

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They were wondering about something very important. You see, these two grown ups were so full of love that they wanted to share their love with a child and create a family. They decided they wanted to adopt a child. They wondered, would they find a child to love? They dreamed about having the laughter of a child in their home. They wanted to cuddle a child and help it feel better if it was sad. What might happen to these grown ups?

In this story the grown ups went to an adoption agency and told their story. "We are so full of love, that we really want to share it with a child and make a family," they said. "Can you help us?"

Have the 2nd pair of (adoptive) parents and case worker figures interact.

The case worker talked with them and learned about them and started to wonder with them. She said, "I can see that you are really wanting to share and grow your love and make a family. Let's see what we can do." Then something sad and wonderful and interesting happened. The child who couldn't be with his parents and the grown ups who wanted a family got introduced.

Hold the adoptive parent and baby figures in your hands or lap all together.

They fell in love. And they made a new family together.

The child will always have its birth mother's dimples and its birth father's ears and now has a parent who makes its favorite breakfast and a parent who plays games with it. The grown ups have now become parents and they have a child who they love. Together they make their own special family. Sometimes in the mystery something that feels sad can also make space for some happy goodness. In the mystery the sad and the happy cuddle up with each other in our heart and make new kinds of love and new kinds of families possible.

Wondering questions:

I wonder what was the best part of the story?

I wonder what was the most important part of this story?

I wonder what we could leave out of this story and still have all the story we need?

I wonder if you were someone or something in the story, who or what would you be?