

A Material World

STEP ONE:

SELECT ONE MEMBER OF YOUR GROUP TO READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

STEP TWO:

EVERYONE ELSE IN THE GROUP WILL LISTEN AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS.

INTRODUCTION:

You and your group have been assigned an “average” family from a country on one of the continents we have studied in class this year. Your job is to determine how this “average” family compares to an “average” family in the United States.

Work with your group to complete answers to questions about your family on a separate sheet of paper. Everyone in the group should have their answers written on their own sheet of paper.

Everyone should be listening, speaking when it is their turn and writing. You and your group will be presenting your answers at the conclusion of this activity.

STEP THREE: PICTURE ONLY – PICTURE ONLY – PICTURE ONLY – PICTURE ONLY

1. Look at your picture with your group. Place the picture so everyone has a chance to view it. **WITHOUT TALKING** for two minutes, just look at it and try to take it all in.
2. Now, work together to **list each of the items in the picture.** These items are things that this family owns and represents an “average” family in this country. Don’t leave anything out! Help each other with identifying objects.
3. Write a few sentences summarizing what you and your group thinks about this list of possessions. **What is your reaction to what you see in the photograph? What can you tell about this family from their possessions? What is important to them? Explain your reasoning.**

STEP FOUR: FAMILY SUMMARY – FAMILY SUMMARY – FAMILY SUMMARY

4. Now, read the description of the family on the “Summary / Demographic” handout. There are extra copies of this for your group. List all of the facts or details about this family that you had already figured out from the image and your group discussion that matches the description of the family.
5. Describe one detail about the family you missed or couldn’t have possibly known based on the family picture.

STEP FIVE: DEMOGRAPHICS – DEMOGRAPHICS – DEMOGRAPHICS - DEMOGRAPHICS

6. There are two sets of demographic information. One for your family’s country and one for the United States. Select the one statistic (for example: “population” or “internet users”) **that best demonstrates how this country and the United States are DIFFERENT.** Explain how this statistic shows a difference between families in these two countries. You may disagree with your group on this one...
7. Select the one statistic (for example: “population” or “internet users”) **that best demonstrates how this country and the United States are SIMILAR.** Explain how this statistic shows a similarity between families in these two countries. You may disagree with your group on this one...
8. Finally, can the group explain the relationship between what a family owns compared to the demographics of its country? How do the numbers related to the image? Provide at least two examples, but try and see how many you can find. Will your group find the most? We’ll see...