

**Topic: Parents and Children**

**Let's get started . . .** When you were a child, what games did you play, and who did you play with? (Can you explain or demonstrate a game?)

**Story:**

The movie, **March of the Penguins**, tells a story about parents and children. Yes, it's about penguins! But, penguin *parents* make huge sacrifices to care for their penguin *children* (chicks). They give birth to their eggs far from their water habitat. Predators are few, but there is **no** food. The father penguin will stand for many winter months, sheltering a penguin egg under his feathers. Male penguins, who will fight at other times, cooperate by standing close (huddling) together to keep warmer in the icy wind and snow. They take



turns standing on the inside of the huddle. Both mother and father penguins take journeys of 70 miles and many months to get food for themselves and their chick.



**In pairs for 10 minutes, ask and answer these questions:**

Are children the most important part of a parent's life? Why or why not?

Who took care of you when you were a baby and a child? Did your parents or other people make sacrifices while you were growing up?

**Share your partner's answers with the group.**

**Group Activity** - How many activities, events or memories from **childhood** can you think of? - for example: the name of a best friend, a nickname, going places with your family, getting eyeglasses, cooking . . . Write them here.



**Talk about one or more of these topics with a partner.**



breaking an arm

**Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups:**

In what ways are you similar to your mother or father and in what ways are you **not** similar? In what ways are you similar to your children and in what ways are you **not** similar? Try to complete these sentences:

I'm similar (**not** similar) to my father because .....

I'm similar (**not** similar) to my mother because .....

My daughter is similar (**not** similar) to me because .....

My son is similar (**not** similar) to me because .....

I look like my .....

I talk like my .....

Say "tell me more about that" to your Talk Time friends.



How many people lived together in your house when you were a child? Do you like big families or small families? Give examples.

A "mama's boy" is a son who is very closely attached to his mother. A "daddy's girl" is a daughter who has a very special relationship with her father. A "daddy's girl" may have her father "wrapped around her little finger." This means that the daddy can not say "no" to his daughter. In your native culture, are there special relationships between mothers and sons or mothers and daughters? Are there special relationships between fathers and daughters or fathers and sons? Give examples.

Were your parents strict or relaxed (permissive)? Explain. Will you raise your children differently from the way that your parents raised you? Why or why not?

What sacrifices do you, or will you, make for your own children or grandchildren?

**New vocabulary:** penguins, huge, sacrifices, chicks, habitat, predators, barely moving, sheltering, cooperate, huddling, "take turns", protected, journey, nickname, "mama's boy", "daddy's girl", attached, wrapped, strict, relaxed, permissive.

**Keep talking about it this week:** Ask friends about their favorite childhood games. Write down their answers and be ready to share with the group in the next Talk Time.

**More about March of the Penguins at:** <http://wip.warnerbros.com/marchofthepenguins/>