

# Diversifying accommodation

## Introduction

This activity is designed to encourage students to think about a wider range of family members than the conventional nuclear family.



It also looks at standard housing and how it can be adapted for use by different groups of people with different and more diverse needs.

**Webinar time reference:** 23:34 – 26:50

**Level:** Any age A2+

**Time:** 20 – 30 minutes

**Aim:** To encourage students to think about the needs of a more diverse range of family members

## Preparation:

- Make copies of the house diagram for students.

## Procedure

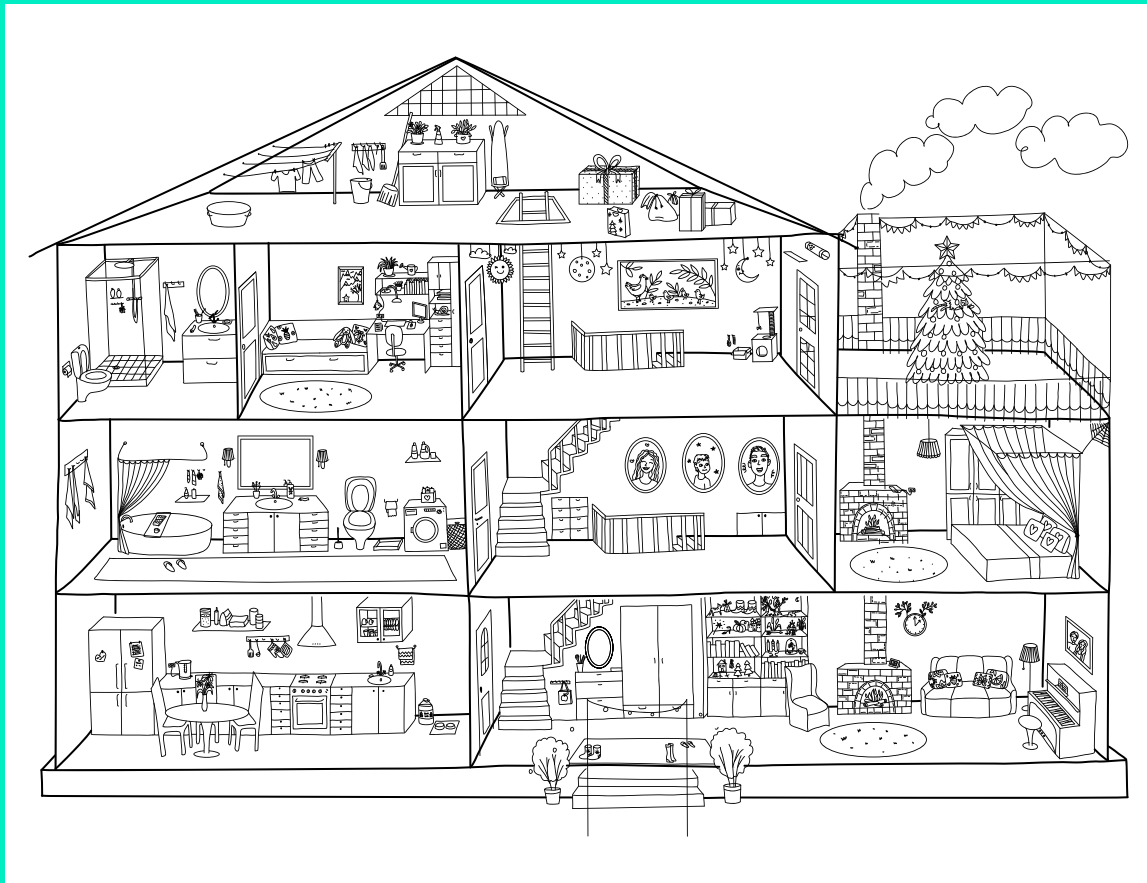
- Give your students a copy of the house diagram, ask them how it is similar to or different from their own home.
- Ask the students to try to imagine what kind of family lives in the house.

- Get the students' feedback and draw stick figures to represent the family they describe.
- Now tell the students that the people living in the house are very different.
- Give them the list of different people who might live in the house, put them into small groups, and ask them to think about how they would need to change the house to make it comfortable for these people.
- Once they have finished their discussion, get some feedback and see what they suggest.
- Next, ask the students to think back to the family they described first and how that family differs or is similar to their own.
- Get the students to share their feedback.

**Materials:**

**Different People**

Redesign this house to suit these people.



1. An old woman who has trouble walking.
2. Three young flatmates who are sharing the house.
3. A boy in a wheelchair with his parents and three older sisters.
4. A man living alone with a cat.
5. A female couple.
6. A single parent with a young baby

## Additional resources

### Raising awareness of diversity in the language classroom

- Depending on the setting, there may be differences in the learners' linguistic profiles and lifestyle choices. Even in apparently homogeneous groups, there will be aspects of identity that individual members may or may not be happy to disclose, such as specific skills and talents or sexual orientation.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/raising-awareness-diversity-language-classroom>

### Eyes Open - Celebrating Diversity in YL Literature

- This webinar celebrates the representation of diversity in literature. It aims to take advantage of this positive development to encourage educators to bring more inspiring materials into the classroom, with an aim to normalise diversity. This practical workshop makes use of the models set by successful children's literature and analyses the positive effects these stories can have on young learners.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/eyes-open-celebrating-diversity-yl-literature>

### Diversity: How to handle students' background diversity

- In this video, Sagun Shrestha (Nepal) and Pankaj Dwivedi (India) talk about ways to handle the diverse backgrounds of students in a multicultural setting. As Sagun points out, instead of viewing diversity as a problem, a multicultural classroom offers opportunities to enrich learning.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/diversity-how-handle-students-background-diversity>