

Father's Day

di Sarah Gudgeon

1. Read

Father's Day is a special day all around the world. On this day, children everywhere say thank you to their dads for everything they do. Modern dads, like mums, often work all day, take their children to school and after-school activities like dance or football and cook and clean the home too. In Britain, Father's Day is on the third Sunday of June, the same as in America. In other countries the date is different; In Italy Father's Day is on the 19th of March and in Australia, it's on the first Sunday of September. The First Father's Day celebration was in 1910 in Washington, America, but it didn't become a national holiday until many years later. In 1972 President Nixon made Father's Day an official holiday. Before, only mothers had an official day of celebration. Lots of children now buy sweets or chocolate for their dads to celebrate Father's Day and send a card too. In Britain it is a Father's Day tradition for children to wash their father's car or help with the gardening on this day. The important thing is to spend time with your dad, doing something fun together.

2. Tick only the three facts that are true.

- a. Father's Day is celebrated around the world on the third Sunday of June.
- b. Father's Day is celebrated on the same date in Italy and Australia.
- c. Father's Day became an official holiday in 1910.
- d. President Nixon declared Father's Day as an official holiday.
- e. Only Mothers had an official day of celebration before 1972.
- f. In Britain it is a Father's Day tradition to wash the car or do some gardening together

3. Read this Father's Day poem from a card.

What Makes A Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea . . .
... Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad

Extract from a poem by an Unknown Author. Source:

http://fatherhood.about.com/od/fathersdayresources/qt/what_makes_a_dad_poem.htm

4. What do you think makes a good dad? Write your own poem for your dad this Father's Day.

Teachers Notes

2. Tick: d, e, f
3. Read the poem as a class, check pronunciation.
4. Ask students what qualities they think a good dad should have. You could put examples of opening and closing lines on the board:

A good dad is -----(list of adjectives). You are a good dad!

I love you, dad. You always help me -----(list of nouns). Thanks! You're the best