

TO:	Teachers
FROM:	The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.)
RE:	What ALL Children Need to Know About Adoption

Here are some suggestions for the kinds of information most children need to be told CLEARLY about foster care and adoption:

- Adoption helps children who need families, and families who would like to adopt children.
- Adoptive families are real and permanent; they last forever.
- Adoption is needed because sometimes adults cannot parent children; it is not because the child was bad. The reason for adoption lies with the birth mother and birth father.
- Many adults place their children because they want them to have a better home than they can give them at that time.
- Adoptees grow up to be successful and you can tell them about some well-known adoptees.
- There are about 5 million adopted people in the U.S. today.

They might also need to know that:

- Each child has a different adoption story. Their adoption story is private but some children like to share information about it, others do not.
- Some adopted children have contact with their birth parents and some may even visit them. Others do not.
- Adopted children joined their families in a different way, but being in a family is the same as for all children. Adopted children are loved by their parents, just like all children.
- Adoption is a difference, but it is not important when you are deciding if you want to be friends.
- Adopted children may have been born in the U.S. or abroad. They become American citizens.

Kids might need to know about foster care:

- Foster families are families who take care of children who need families for a limited time because their parents and extended family cannot parent them.
- It is not appropriate to ask kids about the reasons why they are in foster care.
- Most children in foster care return to their families after a time. Some children in foster care are adopted by their foster parents or other adoptive parents.



C.A.S.E.

The Center for Adoption Support and Education, Inc.

Providing Specialized Services for Adoptive Families and the Community