

Two Homes - Reading Guide

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Themes: home, after parents' divorce/separation, parental love

Lesson/Notes: This is a light, simple story in which Alex tells about his two different homes (Mommy's and Daddy's) and similarities/differences. It reinforces that Alex loves his parents and they love him no matter where he is. This story can help young children know what to expect if parents are separating and the child will be spending time at each parent's home.

When parents decide not to live together or be married anymore, some things change and some things stay the same. Alex's parents do not live together, so he has two homes because he spends time with both of them. Even if your parents do not get along and do not live together anymore, it's okay for you to love both your parents and enjoy your time with each of them.

Discussion Questions

- What is the same about Alex's two homes?
- What are some differences between Alex's two homes?
- Do Alex's parents love him when they are not with him? (Yes, they love him all the time.)
- Can Alex still love both of his parents? (yes)
- What do you like to do with your mom?
- What do you like to do with your dad?

Activity: Draw It Out

Suggested Supplies: crayons (or markers, pencils, paint, etc.), craft paper

- Encourage the child to draw two pictures.
 - A picture of him/herself and mom at mom's home
 - A picture of him/herself and dad at dad's home
- The child may also want to draw something (s)he likes to do with each parent.
- Invite the child to talk about similarities and differences between the child's two homes.