

A NEW FAMILY PORTRAIT



KIDS CAN'T FIX DIVORCE! | KIDS CANNOT CAUSE DIVORCE! | THE DISTANT FUTURE

LIFE AFTER DIVORCE | LET'S THINK ABOUT THE PAST | WHAT IS DIVORCE?

IT SEEMS LIKE ALL HAS FALLEN APART | **Extra variant:**_____

The following article is about divorce. Choose a suitable heading for each part. There is 1 extra heading.

Although that may sound simple, it's not easy for a husband and wife to decide to end a marriage. Often they spend a long time trying to solve problems before deciding to divorce. But sometimes they just can't fix the problems and decide that a divorce is the best solution.

Although it's true that the kid of a divorced couple usually lives with only one parent most of the time, the parent who lives somewhere else is still that kid's mom or dad - forever. *That will never change*.

Many children of divorced parents believe they are the reason their mom and dad got divorced. They think that if only they had behaved better, gotten better grades, or helped more around the house, the divorce wouldn't have happened. But this isn't true. Divorce is between moms and dads only!

Just like the divorce is not the kid's fault, getting parents back together is not up to the kid, either. And most likely, this doesn't happen, although plenty of kids wish for it and even try things they think might work. Acting like an angel at home all the time (who can do that?) and getting straight 'A's at school (another hard thing to do) may make your mom and dad happy with you, but it doesn't mean they'll get back together.

The opposite is also true. Getting in trouble so your mom and dad will have to get together to talk about these problems is not going to make the divorce go away, either. So, just be yourself and try to talk to your parents about any feelings you have.

If your family is going through a divorce or you're helping a friend through it, there are a few things about feelings you need to remember. First of all, it's normal to feel lots of different things, including anger, fear, and sadness.

Second, even though it may seem like your whole world just is crumbling, with time, things will be better again. Your life might be a bit different, but the pieces will come back together again - maybe even sooner than you think.

When parents divorce, usually 1 parent moves out of the house and lives somewhere else. Some kids spend part of the time living with one and part of the time living with the other. Other kids live with one parent and visit the other. If this is the case for you, it may seem strange at first to be visiting your own parent, but you may even start to enjoy a little time away from your everyday house. And it can feel good having two homes where someone loves you.

Wouldn't you like to know what will happen in the future? For a kid of a divorced family, it may mean stepfamilies someday. Don't expect everything to go smoothly all the time.

It can be really hard dealing with divorce, but try to remember that lots of kids go through what you're going through, and usually everything and everyone turns out fine. In fact - as bad as things might seem right now - you just might be surprised at how good the years to come will turn out to be.

LIVEWORKSHEETS