

BLENDED FAMILIES.

Fill in the blanks with words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.

achieved	argument	break	bullies	challenge
common	couple		divorce	guilty
nuclear	popular	previous	proud	reality
		challenges	relationship	

A stepfamily, or blended family, is a _____ with at least one child from a _____ relationship who lives with them all the time or some of the time.

These families often have an image problem. In old fairy tales stepmothers are wicked and stepsisters are _____. When you see a stepfamily in one of your favourite TV soap operas they usually have _____ with other family members. That is why the phrase “blended family” is often used instead of stepfamily.

Family life has faced many _____ over the past half century. Traditional _____ families – mother, father and two children – are a lot less _____ today. About 40% of all marriages end in _____.

Today, over 2.5 million children in the UK live in stepfamilies. Most of them start when the birth parents _____ up and find new partners.

Being part of a stepfamily can really be a _____ for children. An important factor is the way the birth parents deal with the end of their _____. They need to be careful not to talk too much about their ex-partner or his/her faults. Children sometimes also feel _____ about liking their stepparent too much, because they may think that they are betraying their birth parent.

Although, while it may be hard at first, being in a stepfamily can provide all members with a new life and a feeling that they have _____ something worthwhile.