

## Cat's In The Cradle

### Family Discussion

- When couples have a child, what are their expectations, hopes and dreams?
- How much time does the average family get to spend together?
- In your community, who spends the majority of time with the children? Mother? Father? Grandparents? Do you think it should be different?
- How do you want to be, or act with your children?
- Which is more important – your job or your family?
- How are old people treated in your country?

Before actually listening to the song , write these words on the board and tell students to find words that rhyme with them. In this way they will already come up with the words in the gaps.

Day    grew                  spoon                  when

## SONG WITH GAPS – all rhyme

1. My child arrived just the other \_\_\_\_\_,
2. He came to the world in the usual \_\_\_\_\_
3. But there were planes to catch and bills to \_\_\_\_\_,
4. He learned to walk while I was \_\_\_\_\_
5. And he was talking 'for I knew it, and as he \_\_\_\_\_
6. He said "I'm gonna be like \_\_\_\_\_, dad,
7. you know I'm gonna be like \_\_\_\_\_ "
  
8. And the cat's in the cradle and the silver \_\_\_\_\_,
9. Little boy blue and the man in the \_\_\_\_\_
10. "When you commin' home dad (son)?"
11. "I don't know \_\_\_\_\_, But we'll get together \_\_\_\_\_, (Dad)
12. You know we'll have a good time \_\_\_\_\_."
  
13. My son turned ten just the other \_\_\_\_\_
14. He said "Thanks for the ball dad, come on let's \_\_\_\_\_
15. Can you teach me to throw?" I said "Not \_\_\_\_\_,
16. I got a lot to do" He said "That's \_\_\_\_\_ "
17. He walked away but his smile never \_\_\_\_\_,
18. It said I'm gonna be like him, yeah,
19. You know I'm gonna be like \_\_\_\_\_ **(Chorus)**
  
20. Well he came from college just the other \_\_\_\_\_
21. So much like a man I just had to \_\_\_\_\_
22. "Son I'm proud of you can you sit for a \_\_\_\_\_?"
23. He shook his head and he said with a \_\_\_\_\_,
24. "What I'd really like dad is to borrow the car \_\_\_\_\_,
25. See you later can I have them \_\_\_\_\_?" **(Chorus)**
  
26. I've long since retired, my son's moved \_\_\_\_\_
27. I called him up just the other \_\_\_\_\_
28. I said "I'd like to see you if you don't \_\_\_\_\_ "
29. He said "I'd love to dad if I could find the \_\_\_\_\_,
30. You see the my new job's a hassle and the kids have the \_\_\_\_\_
31. But it's sure nice talkin' to \_\_\_\_\_ dad.
32. It's sure nice talkin' to \_\_\_\_\_ "
33. And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me,
34. He'd grown up just like me.
35. My boy was just like me

## Comprehension and Discussion Questions

1. What did the boy want to do with his father?
2. Why couldn't the father do it?
3. How did the boy feel?
4. Why couldn't the boy meet with his dad?
5. What did the boy want after college?
6. Who is responsible for fixing the situation? Son, Father, Both?
7. Does society make families stronger or weaker?

Question:  
Who wrote the  
words to this song?

Answer: his wife!

SONG COMPLETE

1. My child arrived just the other DAY
2. He came to the world in the usual WAY
3. But there were planes to catch and bills to PAY
4. He learned to walk while I was AWAY
5. And he was talking 'for I knew it, and as he GREW
6. He said "I'm gonna be like YOU dad,
7. you know I'm gonna be like YOU
  
8. And the cat's in the cradle and the silver SPOON
9. Little boy blue and the man in the MOON
10. "When you commin' home dad (son)?"
11. "I don't know WHEN But we'll get together THEN (Dad)
12. You know we'll have a good time THEN
  
13. My son turned ten just the other DAY
14. He said "Thanks for the ball dad, come on let's PLAY
15. Can you teach me to throw?" I said "Not TODAY
16. I got a lot to do" He said "That's OK
17. He walked away but his smile never DIMMED
18. It said I'm gonna be like him, yeah,
19. You know I'm gonna be like HIM **(Chorus)**
  
20. Well he came from college just the other DAY
21. So much like a man I just had to SAY
22. "Son I'm proud of you can you sit for a WHILE
23. He shook his head and he said with a SMILE
24. "What I'd really like dad is to borrow the car KEYS
25. See you later can I have them PLEASE **(Chorus)**
  
26. I've long since retired, my son's moved AWAY
27. I called him up just the other DAY
28. I said "I'd like to see you if you don't MIND
29. He said "I'd love to dad if I could find the TIME
30. You see the my new job's a hassle and the kids have the FLU
31. But it's sure nice talkin' to YOU dad.
32. It's sure nice talkin' to YOU
33. And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me,
34. He'd grown up just like me.
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