

LESSON 2 - THE ROYAL FAMILY

THE ROYAL FAMILY

Most kings and queens wanted to make sure they had lots of children, and they made sure those children understood what it meant to be part of the royal family. Being a prince or princess had **both advantages and disadvantages**. *Advantages means that there are good things about being in a royal family. Disadvantages means that there are some not-so-good things about being in a royal family.*



THE ROYAL FAMILY

This picture shows King George V of England, the queen, and four of their sons. *[Point to the image.]* As you can see, children in the royal family got to wear fancy clothing. They lived with their parents in the palace, which gave them plenty of space to run and play. Fine furniture and other beautiful things always surrounded them. For many kings and queens, having children was not just a matter of wanting to raise a family. In fact, children were the key to the future prosperity and success of the kingdom. *Children were important to the wealth and good fortune of a kingdom.* But why were children so important?



THE ROYAL FAMILY

Once a person became king, he usually remained king for the rest of his life. The period of time during which he ruled was called a **king's reign**. *The same is true for a queen who sits on the throne. What's a king's or queen's reign? Is this the kind of reign we are talking about when we say "It's raining outside?"* And when that king died, his reign ended, and one of the children from the royal family became the new ruler.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

When you inherit something, it means that someone else, usually a relative, gives you something that once belonged to them. Often, when a person dies, their property—the things they own, including their belongings and money— are passed on to family members, who then inherit these things.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

This is what happened in kingdoms when the ruling king or queen died: their power—the right to sit on the throne and wear the crown—was passed on to someone else in the family. Royal families always wanted children so the power to rule the kingdom stayed in their family. If there were no children, sometimes the power to rule the kingdom went to a different family.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

Someone who inherits something is called an heir. In a kingdom, princes and princesses were heirs to the throne, because they were to inherit the throne. The oldest son, the one most likely to be heir to the throne, is called the crown prince. *When we are talking about the crown prince as the heir to the throne, are we talking about someone who becomes the king, or are we talking about the air we breathe?*



THE ROYAL FAMILY

He is called the crown prince because he is the next person to wear the king's crown and rule the kingdom. If there is no son, the oldest daughter is called the crown princess because she will be the next person to wear the crown and rule the kingdom. Remember that the crown is a symbol of power and that whoever wears it is in charge.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

This photograph shows King George V of England, the queen, and four of their sons. *[Point to the oldest son in the image.]* The oldest of the sons is the crown prince because he will be the next king. The adults treat him with great respect, even though he is only a teenager. People hold doors for him and bow to him because he has the important status of being the next king. He has grown up having people serve him and tell him that he is very important. *What is the next king called? (The next king is called the crown prince or the heir to the throne.)*



THE ROYAL FAMILY

This is a picture of a palace in a country called Morocco. *[Point to Morocco on a map. Then point to Africa and tell students that Morocco is a country located on the continent of Africa.]* Inside this big, beautiful palace lives a crown prince named Moulay Hassan. He lives with his father, mother, and little sister. His father is the king of Morocco. Moulay was born in 2003 and is the oldest son of the king. Moulay will be the next king of Morocco because he is the oldest son and the crown prince of Morocco.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

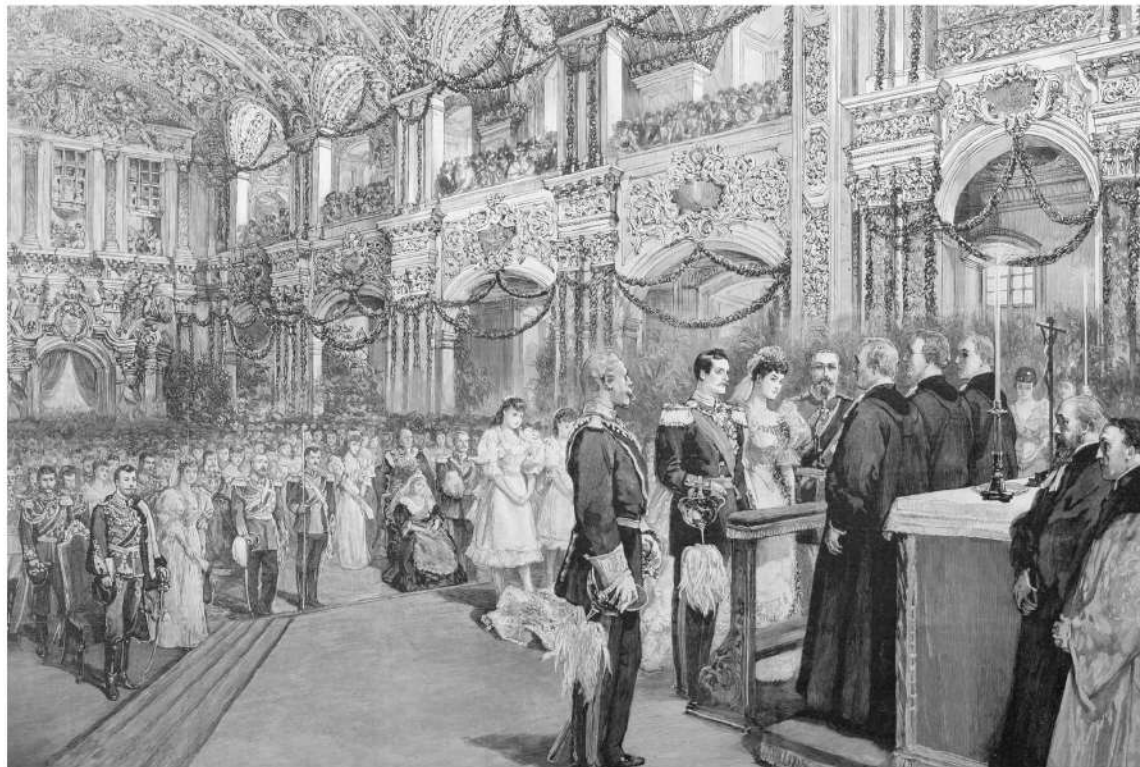
What do you see happening in this picture? The crown prince or princess is a very important member of the royal family, and he or she receives special education and extra special care in order to someday rule the kingdom. But what happens to the other princes and princesses, those who are not the oldest and heirs to the throne?

Remember the heir to the throne is the son or daughter who will become the next king or queen.



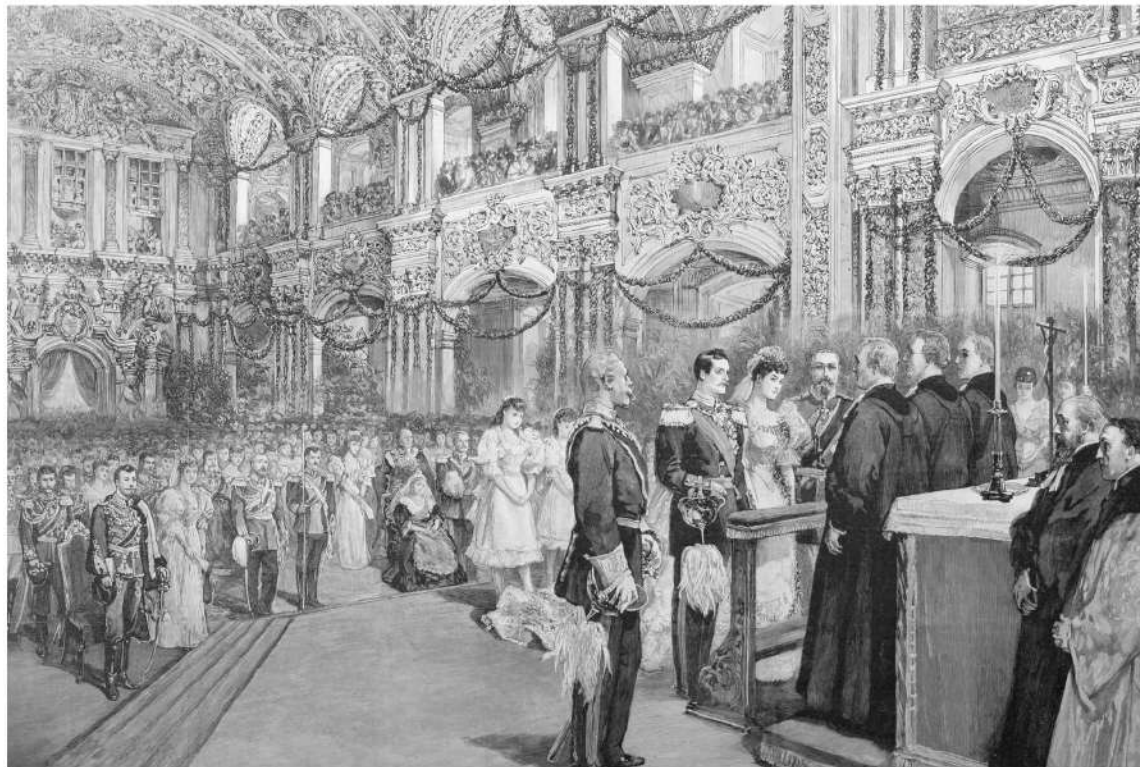
THE ROYAL FAMILY

Kings and queens often arranged marriages for their children. This meant that princes and princesses usually did not get to choose whom they were going to marry—their parents decided for them! This was because marriage was used as a way to form a partnership between two kingdoms, or a way for two kingdoms to rule together as a team.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

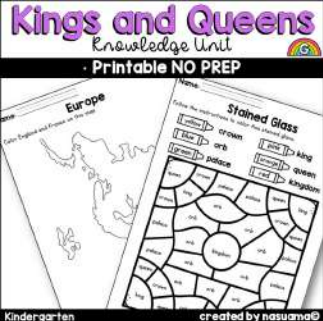
When a prince or princess married someone from another kingdom—as in this picture of a wedding between a princess from England and a prince from Germany—it was an important event. All the most important people from those two kingdoms were invited because it meant that those kingdoms were going to be friends in the future. *[Show the location of England and Germany on a map.]*



THE ROYAL FAMILY

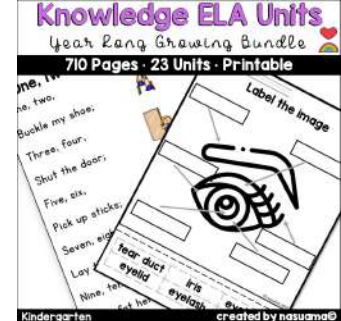
There were definitely advantages to being a member of the royal family, especially for those who liked living in palaces and wearing nice clothes. *Do you remember what advantages are? What are disadvantages?* But being a prince or princess wasn't all fun and games. Some disadvantages include that they didn't always get to do whatever they wanted, especially when it came to whom they would marry. Often, anything they did was watched and commented on by others. Everything they did reflected on the kingdom and the royal family, and they had to be careful to behave in a royal manner at all times.





KINGS AND QUEENS

BUNDLE



Name: _____

Reign and Rain

Cut and paste the pictures into the correct place based on the category.

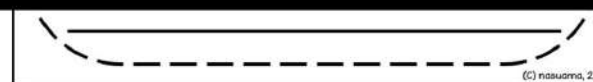
reign	rain

Name: _____

Prince/Princess for a Day

Draw yourself being a prince or princess for a day. Don't forget to choose also a royal name.

DO YOU NEED EXTRA ACTIVITIES?



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