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## **Trade Book Sheet**

**Title of book:** The Shaman's Apprentice; A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest

**Author's name:** Lynne Cherry and Mark J. Plotkin

**Publisher:** Harcourt Brace & Company

**Copyright year:** 1998

**Reading level:** AD 890L Grade 5-6

**Genre:** Multicultural

**Synopsis of story:** This story takes place in the Amazon rain forest. It is about a little boy that is ill and how the Shaman or medicine man of his village saved his life. It talks about Kamanya's life growing up and then how it is changed when white men come to his village. After they leave a white woman comes to their village to study what the Shaman does to heal his people. The villagers get to know Gabriela and look forward to her coming every year. In the end she does not take something away from the village or harm it but rather she brings them a special gift.

**Standard:** 2.4.8 Give examples of different roles people have in families and communities.

**Activity:** Families on Display: An Introduction to the study of Families by Carey Bohl  
<http://www.lessonplanspage.com/printables/PSSFFamilyStructuresRoles23.htm>

Materials:

- One large sheet of newsprint.
- Posters of different family types around the world.
- The Shaman's Apprentice by Lynne Cherry and Mark J. Plotkin
- 11x14 sheet of colored construction paper.
- Glue, pencils, markers, crayons, etc.
- Family pictures from each child.
- Magazines with pictures of families in them.

Procedures:

Read The Shaman's Apprentice. Discuss and compare/contrast Kamanya's family life and that of the students. Complete on the sheet of newsprint, a bar graph showing the numbers and make up of each student's family using the information obtained from students. Give each student a piece of construction paper, their family photos, magazine pictures and writing implements. Say: Today we are going to make a family collage that shows your family and different types of families that can be found around the world. Make reference to the story if needed. An example of your own family collage may be completed ahead of time. Allow the students to decorate and display their collages.

**Standard:** 2.3.7 Use a variety of information resources to identify ways that the physical environment influences human activities in the community.

**Activity:** Exploring the Amazon Rain Forest

Go to the school's very large, very modern and updated computer lab. Each student should be at a computer. Write the address of the site on the board for students to type in. They must understand they are only allowed to go to this site.

<http://www.eduweb.com/amazon.html>

Hand out the information sheet which has 10 items students must explore on the website. Tell them they need to check out all 10 of the items but as they explore the site they should write down information about 5 items they have found and are interested in.