

Mothers and Fathers Slide Show Excerpt - TV



Trivia quiz: Moms in TV Land

In January 1953, Lucy Ricardo gave birth to Little Ricky on “I Love Lucy,” a show that had the highest number and percentage of viewers of any show until that time. But *after* she gave birth, most people don’t remember specific episodes that featured Lucy as a mother.

Following is a quiz of TV stars whose motherly role was more central to their character.



Trivia quiz: Moms in TV Land

The 1950s:

1. Donna Reed as Donna Stone on “The Donna Reed Show” ____
2. Barbara Billingsly as June Cleaver on “Leave It to Beaver” ____
 - a. She was never without pearls, high heels, a packed school lunch for her sons, or sage advice always sweetly delivered.
 - b. She was a mother who worked as a nurse beside her physician husband in his home office, as well as an active volunteer life in her community.



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Moms in TV Land

3. Mary Tyler Moore as Laura Petrie on “The Dick Van Dyke Show” ____

4. Meredith Baxter as Elyse Keaton on “Family Ties” ____

a. This former hippie mother of four was an architect whose liberal views often clashed with those of her conservative son, played by Michael J. Fox.

b. This mother of a young son brought the same well-meaning, slightly nervous attention to her role as she would later bring to the role she played as a TV producer with a show of her own.



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Moms in TV Land

5. Florence Henderson as Carol Brady on “The Brady Bunch” ____

6. Shirley Jones as Shirley Partridge on “The Partridge Family” ____

a. Although best known for her large brood, this mother’s roles included sculptor, writer, singer and political activist, all to show her three daughters that there’s nothing a woman can’t do.

b. This 70s single mom raised four children and managed to get them to every one of their singing performances in their psychedelic school bus.



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Moms in TV Land

7. Phylicia Rashad as Claire Huxtable on “The Cosby Show” ____

8. Esther Rolle as Florida Evans on “Good Times” ____

a. Known as one of the classiest mothers on TV, this New York City lawyer was a no-nonsense mother of five never lacking in clever comebacks or wise advice.

b. This endearing mother taught her three children to triumph over harder circumstances than faced by most sitcom characters, including urban slum life, racial discrimination, and street crime.



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Trivia quiz: Dads in TV Land

In the 1950s, TV fathers were often portrayed as the pillar of the family as in “Father Knows Best,” where Robert Young played insurance agent Jim Anderson, who came home every evening to solve the minor crises in his children’s lives. Over time, fathers tended to develop flaws. There was the bigoted Archie Bunker played by Carroll O’Conner in the 1970s, and the accident-prone Tim Taylor (played by Tim Allen) in “Home Improvement” from the 1990s, for example.



Trivia quiz: Dads in TV Land

1. Danny Thomas as Danny Williams on “Make Room for Daddy” ____
2. Dick Van Dyke as Rob Petrie on “The Dick Van Dyke Show” ____



- a. This head writer for a comedy/variety show was the loving husband of Laura and father of Richie, but his son did not play a large role in most of the series.
- b. This father of two was an often absent comedian and entertainer who was a somewhat bumbling, but loving father.

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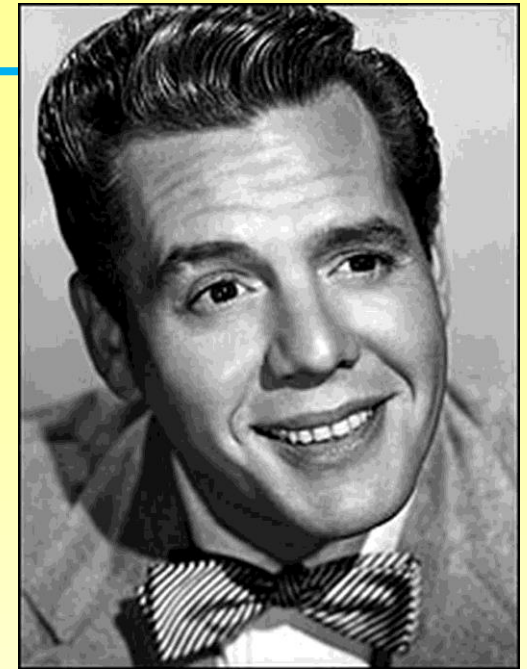
Trivia quiz: Dads in TV Land

3. Desi Arnez as Rick Ricardo on
“I Love Lucy” ____

4. Hugh Beaumont as Ward Cleaver
on “Leave It to Beaver” ____

a. This father of two boys is almost never seen in anything but a suit and tie. He dispenses justice for misbehavior with an awareness of the things he did himself as a child.

b. This band leader spent many hours trying to keep his ditzy wife out of show business and away from misadventures. Their son was a secondary plot line.



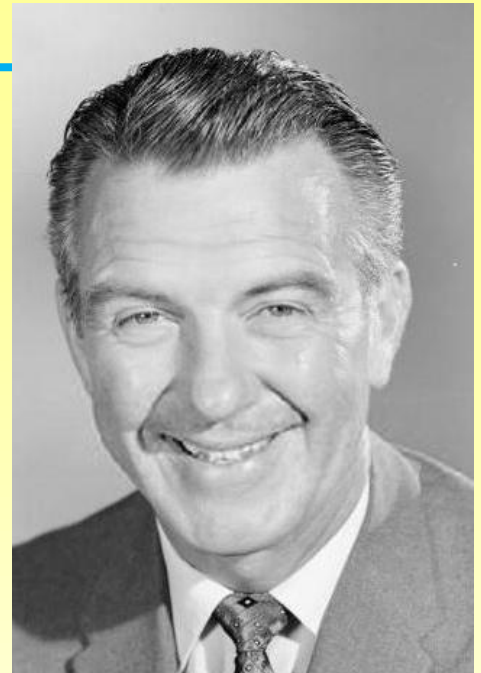
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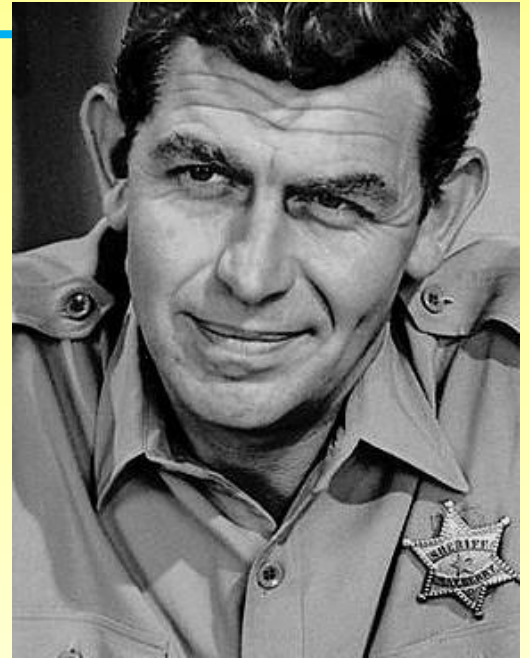
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5. Tom Bosley as Howard Cunningham on “Happy Days” ____

6. Andy Griffith as Andy Taylor on “The Andy Griffith Show” ____

a. This hardware store owner and involved father of two provided a safe haven for his children and their assorted friends.

b. This small town sheriff was a single father who with help from their Aunt Bea raised his son Opie with high moral standards



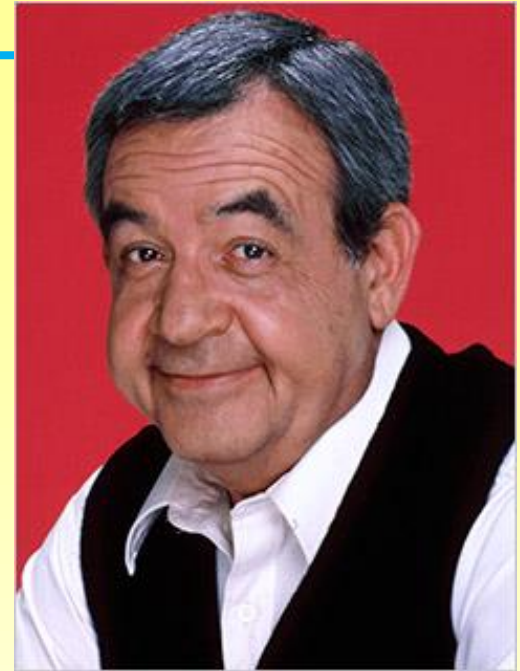
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7. Michael Landon as Charles Ingalls on
“Little House on the Prairie” ____

8. Robert Reed as Mike Brady on
“The Brady Bunch” ____

a. This pioneer farmer was a pillar of the community and the dispenser of wisdom to his three daughters.

b.. A widower with three boys marries a widow with three girls and is a responsible father to all, even in silly situations.



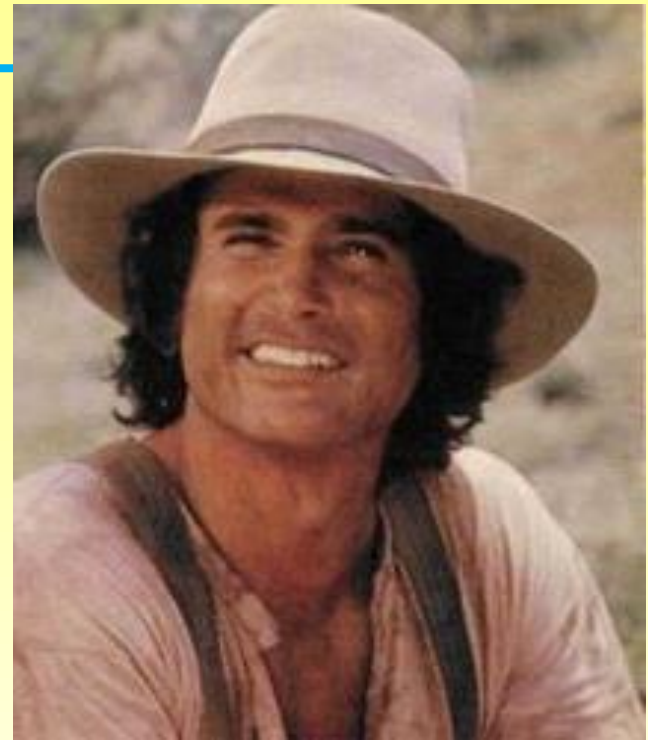
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Trivia quiz: Single Dads in TV Land

In the 1950s TV sitcom “Ozzie and Harriet,” Ozzie never seemed to leave home except to buy ice cream, and his occupation was a mystery. But many of the fathers in the sitcoms of the 1950s and 60s had substantial careers, AND they were single parents, raising children on their own or with the aid of a supporting female such as Aunt Bea on the “Andy Griffith Show.” However, this plot device was often less to indicate their competency as fathers and more about giving them a chance to date. Can you identify their careers?



Trivia quiz: Single Dads in TV Land

1. “Bachelor Father,” father Bentley Gregg ____
2. “The Courtship of Eddie’s Father,” father Tim Corbett ____
3. “Family Affair,” father “Uncle Bill” Davis (pictured) ____
 - a. Construction engineer
 - b. Lawyer
 - c. Magazine editor



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Trivia quiz: Single Dads in TV Land

4. “Bonanza, father Ben Cartwright (pictured) ____

5. “Andy Griffith Show,” father Andy Taylor ____

6. “Sky King,” father Skylar King ____

- a. Sheriff
- b. Pilot-rancher
- c. Rancher



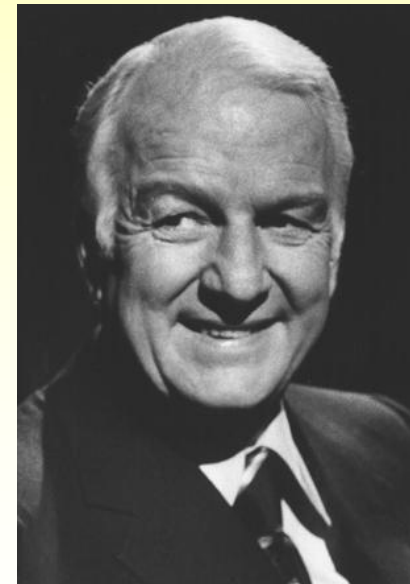
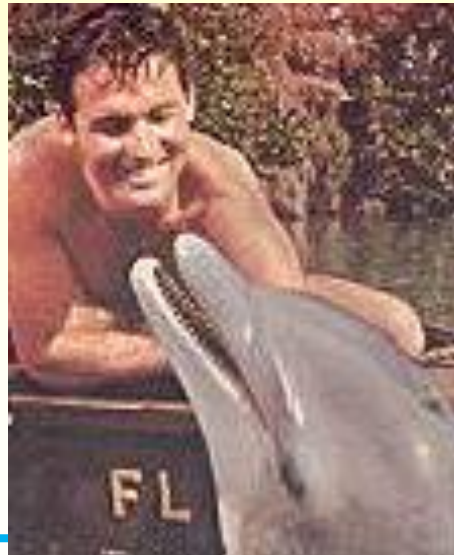
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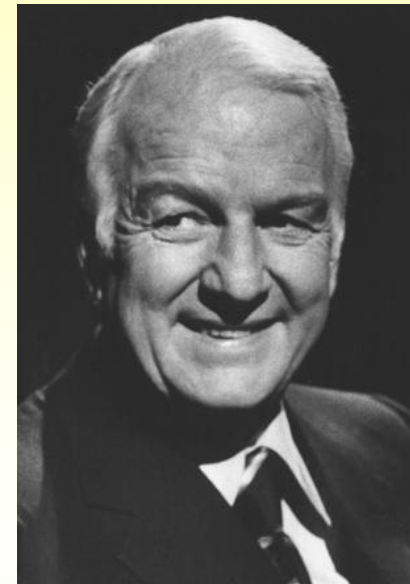
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7. “Flipper,” actor father Brian Kelly as ____
8. “Gidget,” actor father Don Porter as ____
9. “My Three Sons,” actor father Fred MacMurray as ____
 - a. an Aerospace engineer
 - b. college professor
 - c. a park ranger



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I hope this slide show excerpt has helped you make new connections in your brain and delightful connections sharing it with others.

For more information or more slide shows, contact Kathy Laenhue at Kathy@WiserNow.com

And please review www.WiserNow.com and www.CreatingDelight.com

