

Heritage Project

A project in which students will interview family members and research their ancestry to determine the artifacts, stories, foods, and journeys that have made them into who they are today!

Process

Your assignment is to create a project that shows your heritage. After a process of researching and interviewing, you will create a final product to showcase what you've learned. You might choose a video, Prezi, scrapbook, poster or other method to showcase your findings!

Process:

- Research
- Interview
- Organize and make sense of information
- Create a product
- Present your findings

Note: Sometimes researching your own family might be impossible for a variety of reasons. In this case, you might research the ancestors of a friend. Or, you might broaden your research to an entire cultural group with whom you align yourself.

Interviews

Interviews with people will be a great source of information for this project! You might interview family members like parents and grandparents. You also might interview people who have lived in the same countries as your ancestors. Consider anyone who might have insight into your ancestors' lives!

Possible Interview Questions:

1. Where and when were you born?
2. Describe your home, neighbourhood, and town.?
3. What were your favorite activities or pastimes?
4. What was your family like? (jobs, personalities, skills, challenges)
5. How did your family come to live in in this country?
6. What clothes were in fashion? What did you wear?
7. What were some events you remember from your childhood?
8. Did you or anyone in your family have a connection to any important local or world events?
9. How did you meet your spouse?
10. How was the world different then or now?
11. Did you have any religious or cultural traditions?

Family Tree

- You will create a family tree for your family. Include any information you can access, such as:
 - Full names
 - Birth and death dates
 - Locations
 - Marriages
 - Children
- You're welcome to use websites such as ancestry.com to create your family tree.
- In your interviews with family members, be sure to see if there are any family trees!

Family Stories

You are your family's storyteller! After interviewing your sources pick one or two of the best stories.

Record one of these stories in written format.

- It should be in story format, with a beginning, middle and end.
- It should be written in paragraph format.
- It should provide a historical perspective!
- It should contain proper spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Family Artifacts

- If your family had a museum, what would be in it? What are some of the objects important to your family?
- If possible, bring in some of these objects. If it is not possible to bring in, take pictures or find pictures of important artifacts.
- For each artifact, include a short write-up detailing why it is important to your family.

Countries of Origin

Learn about your ancestors' country of origin. You will need to show evidence of learning about each of the following:

- Flag
- Language
- The Arts
- Economy
- Religions
- Foods
- Environment
- Government
- What do you notice from this country that has carried over into you own life?

Family Foods

Food is one of the ways culture is carried on through generations. Research a couple of your family's favourite foods – ones that have been in your family for a while! If possible, have someone help you prepare one of these dishes!

- Include the recipes, instructions, and pictures/video. Perhaps you might even bring in a dish to share!

Family Journeys

- Create a map that shows the journey of how you came to be here! Where are other places you've lived? Where did you parents, or their parents live? Explore how far back you can reach!
- Label each place lived in by your ancestors. Provide dates wherever possible. Draw a line that connects each location.

Connections To Your Life

In a few paragraphs, reflect on how your ancestors' journey has impacted your life. How has it shaped you into who you are today?

Assessment

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Interviews – evidence of interviews with multiple people. Uses this information for project.			
Country of Origin – Has chosen a country of origin, and researched religion, language, environment, culture.			
Family Tree – Has created a clear, organized, detailed family tree.			
Family Stories – Has written a story important to his/her family.			
Family Artifacts – Has included pictures or brought in important objects. Has indicated why they are important.			
Family Foods – has researched and prepared some traditional family foods. Recipes, instructions, and pictures are included.			
Family Journey – accurately shows a map detailing the immigration journey by his/her ancestors.			
Connections to Life – has effectively reflected on how his/her family journey and heritage has impacted his/her life.			