

Family History

FOR KIDS & TEENS

.....

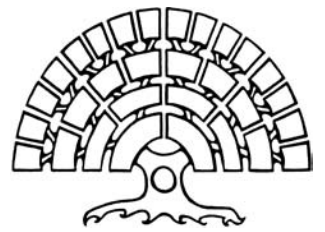
Special Collections Division
Akron-Summit County Public Library
330-643-9030
www.akronlibrary.org/main-sc.html



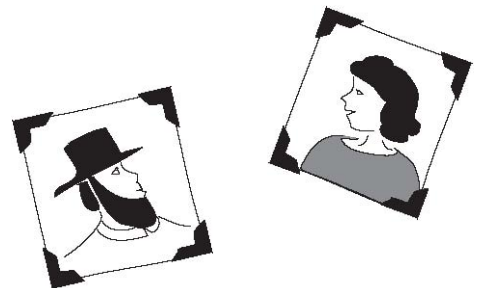
Fun Family History PROJECTS

- **Make a family tree.**
- **Make a family cookbook.** Collect favorite recipes from family members and put them in a notebook. Be sure to include a little information about each cook!
- **Write a biography of yourself.** Include things like:

A description of where you live
Funny stories
How you celebrate holidays
Your favorite books or magazines, music, television programs,
movies, and games
Your best friend
Vacations
School



- **Keep a journal to record both the daily activities and significant events of your life.**
- **Collect or borrow family photographs.** Make copies and create a family album. Be sure to label each photograph with names and dates.
- **Start a family archive.** Collect items that are important to you and your family. Examples could be:
 - Birthday cards
 - Birth certificates
 - Ticket stubs
 - Programs from events that you attended
 - Report cards
 - Letters
 - Recipes
 - Certificates of achievement and diplomas



- **Interview family members (oral history).**
Make a videotape and/or audiotape.

**Be sure to store everything someplace that's not too hot, dusty, or damp, and away from bright light.*

Oral History QUESTIONS

1. What is your full name? When were you born? Where? What are your parents' names? When were they born? Where? Are they still living?
2. Were you named after someone?
3. Where did you grow up? Do you know why your family came to (name of town)?
4. Where did your parent(s) work?
5. Can you describe the house or apartment in which you lived?
6. What was your neighborhood like? What kind of people lived there? Were they members of a certain ethnic group or did they work for the same company?
7. Do you have brothers or sisters? When were they born, and what are their names?
8. What kinds of things did you do as a family?
9. Did you have assigned chores?
10. Where did you go to school? What was a typical school day like? How did you get to school?
11. Did you participate in any sports?
12. What were your favorite subjects in school?
13. What did you like most about school?
14. What did you like least about school?
15. Did you like to read? What kinds of things did you read?
16. What did you do for fun when you were a child? What games did you play?
17. Did you have a secret place where you went to be alone?
18. Who was your best friend?
19. Did you and your friends have any favorite "hangouts"?
20. Did you have pets?
21. How did you celebrate your birthday? Can you remember a favorite gift?
22. How did you celebrate Halloween? What costumes did you wear?
23. How did you celebrate Christmas (or Hanukah)? Did your family have any special traditions or foods?
24. How did you celebrate the Fourth of July?
25. Did your family take vacations?
26. Did you go to college? Where?
27. Did you serve in the military? Where? What did you do?
28. How did you meet your spouse? What was your wedding like? Honeymoon?
29. Can you tell me about your first car?
30. Where do you work? What other jobs have you had?
31. How do you like to spend your free time?

Family History BOOKS For Young People

929.1
B442r Beller, Susan Provost
Roots for kids: a genealogy guide for young people

929.1
D733f Douglas, Ann
The family tree detective: cracking the case of your family's story

929.1072
N277m National Endowment for the Humanities
My history is America's history: 15 things you can do to save America's stories

929.1072
P451g Perl, Lila
The great ancestor hunt: the fun of finding out who you are

929.1
T244t Taylor, Maureen Alice
Through the eyes of your ancestors: a step-by-step guide to uncovering your family's history

929.1
W859c Wolfman, Ira
Climbing your family tree: online and offline genealogy for kids: the official Ellis Island Handbook



All of these books and more can be found in the Akron-Summit County Public Library. The Special Collections Division at the Main Library also has a large circulating collection of manuals for adults.

Family History WEB SITES

www.cyndislist.com/kids.htm Links to thousands of family history Web sites.

www.genealogytoday.com/junior/ Great ideas for searching your family tree. Includes searchable databases.

www.rootsweb.com/~usgwkidz/ Web site for junior genealogists. Includes how-to tips and a Kids Forum where you can post questions and find other kids who are searching the same families

www.familysearch.org Web site maintained by the Church of the Latter-Day Saints. Searchable by name.

Ancestry Plus and Heritage Quest: Both of these databases include records, census images, and more. They are available at any Akron-Summit County Public Library. Heritage Quest may also be accessed remotely using your library card.

