

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROJECT**  
**October 2018 – February 2019**

**Parent(s), please read this packet with your student.**

Investigating your family history is a treasure hunt into your past. Some of you may be able to go back several generations, and some of you not far back at all. In the end this project should give you some perspective of who you are and some of the reasons why. Decide on which side of your family to focus your research; it will not be possible to fully cover both sides of your family for this project.

The focus of the study is the creation of a scrapbook about your family history. You will be gathering artifacts about the following areas, then writing about each section. The writing may take the form of letters, free writing, factual information, or a mixture of different forms. All of the writing must go through the entire writing process (draft, edit, revise), before being published in your scrapbook.

**The following are the sections you will have in your scrapbook:**

1. **Geography** - maps and descriptions of the main places from where your family came, as well as where they settled and lived in the United States.
2. **Food** - Family food traditions that you can find out about, particularly recipes that are still used in your family and have been handed down. They may also be food traditions started by your immediate family that you hope to carry on. Include actual recipes, if possible.
3. **Names** - Find out about your family names. Find out any stories that you can, particularly the story behind your name.
4. **Religion** - What is the history of religion in your family? What role does religion play in your family now? Find stories and information that relate to these areas.
5. **Clothing** - Find out what you can about the clothing of your country or countries of origin or any other particular attitudes about clothing in your family.
6. **Family Tree** - Create a family tree to the best of your ability. The “tree” may take a variety of forms – we will discuss this in class.
7. **Language** - What language or languages did your ancestors speak when they came to the United States? Find out any stories about how it was for them to learn English.

\* Recommendations for enhancing your study:

1. Correspond with any relatives who can be of help to you. Use the correspondence in your scrapbook.
2. Audio or video record a significant relative who can tell stories about the family.
3. Ask your relatives to provide you with photographs or documents that may add to your study.

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Family artifacts are very valuable. Make sure that you have permission to remove things from home. Use a photocopy machine to copy documents that are too fragile or too precious to be in your scrapbook. Keep everything in plastic Ziploc bags and in your shoebox at school. **DO NOT LEAVE THINGS IN YOUR CUBBIES OR BACKPACKS.**

**DUE WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY :** A SCRAPBOOK\_of your family history with each section mentioned above, complete with family artifacts and creative writing.

**\*\*\*** We will have regular check-ins with you to see how you are progressing. Keep track of what you have completed.

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For the student :

The side of my family on which I will focus is

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because \_\_\_\_\_

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**Since this is a long-term project, it is important that the parent(s) understand the components of this project and the due dates. We ask that you sign this form and return it to us so that we know you have seen and are aware of this project.**

**Thank you,**

**M&M**

**I have read the project description and due dates of the family history scrapbook project.**

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**parent signature**

FAMILY HISTORY PROJECT  
Organization Schedule

- You have seven sections to complete for your theme project.
- The project is due **WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2019.**
- For each section you are required to have artifacts that represent each area, as well as creative writing that pertains to each area.
  - The following is a series of deadlines.
  - We will be checking your work at each of these times to make sure that you are progressing on your project. You may work on the sections in whatever order you choose, but you must be able to show your work when you check in with us.

**DUE DATES:**

Friday, 12 October: Signed notice / Choose focus

Wednesday, 24 October: Section #1

Wednesday, 7 November: Section #2

Wednesday, 28 November Section #3

Wednesday, 12 December: Section #4

Wednesday, 9 January: Section #5

Wednesday, 23 January: Section #6

Wednesday, 6 February: Section #7

**DUE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH :**  
**Family History Scrapbook**