

Activities for BYU Library FHC FamilySearch Intermediate Class 1: Duplicates in Family Tree, Part 1: Why They're There and How to Find Them

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Here are some activities to help build skills at recognizing duplicates. Answers appear on the last page, but try to do the activities first without looking at the answers :)

Duplicate or Not? Example 1

1. In beta Family Tree, go to the record for Sarah Ann Gunter:
<https://beta.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/9JGH-NSN>
Sarah Ann has a possible duplicate listed ([KJVN-8B2](#)). (Tip: If Family Tree doesn't display a hint for the duplicate, scroll down to the Tools section on the right and choose **Merge by ID**. Input the second ID and go to step 3 below.)
2. Review the information on each person's profile, including their change logs. Do you believe they are duplicates? Why or why not?
3. **IMPORTANT:** Even if you feel the records are duplicates, please don't merge them. Otherwise, other students will not be able to complete this exercise. Just close the browser tab or click **Back** at the top of the page to return to Sarah Ann's person page without merging.

Duplicate or Not? Example 2

1. In beta Family Tree, go to the record for Charlotte Young:
<https://beta.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KWJ4-D8Q>
Charlotte had a possible duplicate listed (LT7P-SZC). (Tip: If Family Tree doesn't display a hint for the possible duplicate, [click here to see it](#).)
2. Look at the information for the two records. Do you believe they are duplicates? Why or why not?
3. **IMPORTANT:** Even if you feel the records are duplicates, please don't merge them. Otherwise, other students will not be able to complete this exercise. Just close the browser tab or click **Back** at the top of the page to return to Charlotte's person page without merging.

Answers

Example 1: The names, parents, and christening information for both Sarah Ann Gunters all match. These two records are definitely duplicates.

Example 2: Charlotte Young KWJ4-D8Q and Charlotte Young LT7P-SZC do not appear to be duplicates because they were born in different places and had different parents.