

Name: _____ # _____

The Fourth Grade

Family Heritage Project



“You don't stumble upon your heritage. It's there, just waiting to be explored and shared.” ~Robbie Robertson

“Our heritage and ideals, our code and standards - the things we live by and teach our children - are preserved or diminished by how freely we exchange ideas and feelings.” ~Walt Disney

Fourth Grade Family Heritage Project Overview

Fourth graders have been assigned to study their history and the people who make up their family, including ancestors and their present day family. The goal of this project is to introduce students to the research process and the variety of sources students can use to gather information. We want students to understand that research is more than pulling information from GOOGLE.

The assignment is for students to learn about their family by using primary sources. Primary sources include interviews, photographs, newspaper documents, family trees, and other artifacts. ***In order to keep your originals safe, please use your iPad to take pictures of newspapers, family photos, artifacts, etc.*

The entire project will be created and submitted digitally using the Pages app on their iPads. Pages is a powerful word processor that gives you everything you need to create documents that look beautiful. Students will be able to easily include all of their research, writing, and family photos into one document. There are also many easy to use templates in Pages that help to make documents look neat and professional.

The project is open-ended to fit each student's family situation (1 side of the family or both sides). The project also is one to allow students to *be creative!*

Check out the rubric for the grading at the end and have fun learning about your family's heritage!

Common Core Standards embedded in this learning project include the following:

- Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.
- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources.
- Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
- Write a narrative to develop real experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
- With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing.
- Add audio recordings and visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.

Project Organization and Requirements

Cover page

- Name, date, fourth grade
- Title: My Family Heritage Book
- Picture or design

My Ancestors (Section 1)

- **Parent and Grandparent info sheets are due by** _____
 - o This information will be typed in school and included into the final research report
- Picture of each family member and flag(s) representing nationality on your iPad
- Optional - Photographs of other ancestors labeled (optional)

The Interview (Section 2)

- Try to find the oldest or most interesting relative you can.
- Use the interview questions to find out information.
- Take notes using questionnaire provided.
- **Completed questionnaire to school due by** _____
- Optional – Use your iPad to take pictures of photos or other artifacts about the person.
- Complete the written biography in class.

My Origin (Section 3)

- Origin of your name page (template)
- My Cultural Research:
 - o Choose one country from your origin
 - o Write about the country's culture (requirements included)

Although most of the project will be completed at school, it will be necessary for students to complete some parts of it at home. Any due dates for work to be completed at home will be written in your child's assignment notebook.

- **The parent and grandparent information sheets, as well as the ancestor interview will need to be done at home. These are due on _____.**

Please review and sign below.

I have read and reviewed the requirements for "The 4th Grade Heritage Project" with my son/daughter. I will email my child's homeroom teacher with any questions or concerns I have about this research project.

Student Name

Parent Signature

Section 1: My Ancestors

Parent 1

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Favorite Childhood Memory _____

Parent 2

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Favorite Childhood Memory _____

Grandparent 1

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Family tradition they want continued _____

Grandparent 2

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Family tradition they want continued _____

Grandparent 3

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Family tradition they want continued _____

Grandparent 4

Full Name _____

Age _____

Place of Birth _____

Nationality _____

Family tradition they want continued _____

Section 2: The Interview

Interview Questions : Write the answer to each question in the space provided while conducting the interview.

Introduction Paragraph

Interviewee _____

Relationship _____ Age _____

Birth-date _____ Birthplace _____

Location of interview _____ Date of Interview _____

Childhood Paragraph

What was your childhood home like?

Did you have chores to do around your house? If so, explain.

What was elementary school like?

As a child, what did you do in your free time?

What clubs or athletic groups did you belong to?

What jobs did your parents have?

Young adult paragraph

Did you get any education after high school? Explain.

What was your job?

Memories over the Years Paragraph

Tell me about the most memorable day in history for you.

What is your favorite invention and why?

Who was your role model and why?

What was your favorite holiday? Describe it.

Memories with Me Paragraph

What was the best time we have spent together?

What words of wisdom do you have for me?

At the end of the interview, feel free to add more questions you'd like to have answered. Jot the questions and answers down on a separate sheet of paper.

Section 3: My Origin

My Name Page

My full name is _____.

My first name means _____.

My parents picked my name because _____

_____.

I got my middle name because _____

_____.

My last name is _____ and its nationality is

_____.

My last name means _____

_____.

When I researched my ancestors, I found out that I am made up of these nationalities.

_____.

Culture Research Requirements

Choose a country that one of your ancestors came from and find out about the culture of this country! You will need to find the following information:

- Language/Languages that are most often spoken
- Landmarks
- Typical food that is eaten
- Beliefs or values
- Dress
- Holidays that are celebrated
- Music

For additional enrichment you may, but are not required to, research any of these additional topics:

- Gender roles
- Importance of "space" (personal space)
- What school is like for someone your age
- Importance of time
- Notions of beauty
- Body language
- Notions of cleanliness
- Etiquette

Compose your research into one to three paragraphs to include in your Pages document.

Project Rubric

(Biography will be graded separately. See attached writing rubric.)

W4.7 Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation

EP	PR	AP	NP
All required activities are complete as well as additional options. Knowledge of subject is clear.	All required activities are complete. Knowledge of subject is evident in all activities.	Most required activities are complete. Some knowledge of subject is evident in the activities.	Some required activities are complete. Little knowledge of subject is evident in the activities.

SL 4.5 Add audio recordings and/or visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.

EP	PR	AP	NP
Pictures are included for each parent and grandparent possible. Flags are included with captions. Optional map or other visual displays are included.	Pictures with a caption are included for each parent and grandparent possible. Flags are included with captions.	Pictures and flags are included for each parent and grandparent possible. Captions may be incomplete or missing.	Pictures and/or flags are missing.

W.8 Recall relevant information from experiences; take notes and categorize information.

EP	PR	AP	NP
Interview is detailed. Additional questions were included in the interview.	All required parts are complete for interview.	Most of the interview is recorded.	Some required parts of the interview are incomplete.

W.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

EP	PR	AP	NP
All required parts are complete as well as additional options are completed for the culture research portion. Knowledge of subject is clear.	All required parts are complete for the culture research portion. Knowledge of subject is evident.	Most required parts are complete for the cultural research portion. Some knowledge of subject is evident.	Some required parts are complete for the cultural portion. Little knowledge of subject is evident in the activities.

Assignment Checklist

Required Parts

- ☐ Cover page with name, date, grade level, and picture
- ☐ Parent Information Sheets with photos and flags
- ☐ Grandparents Information Sheets with photos
- ☐ Interview Questionnaire
- ☐ Biography
- ☐ My Origin Pages (Name and Cultural Research)

Optional Parts

- ☐ Ancestor photos
- ☐ Other family artifacts