

Your group will be assigned to different sections of the cemetery so that the other groups aren't all taking the same information. You can learn more from [this site](#).

1. While at the cemetery, please observe the following etiquette rules;
2. Walk between the headstones, not over the actual burial site.
3. Do not touch any of the monuments or gravestones.
4. Remain respectfully quiet at the cemetery. No running or yelling. Speak quietly to your group members.
5. If you see any litter, pick it up, even though it is not yours.
6. If there is anyone visiting the cemetery, please work in a different area so as to not disturb them.
7. Do not bring food to the cemetery. The sites are already a bit fragile. We do not want to introduce rodents and draw insects.

Task 1:

You have three pieces of loose leaf per person. Each individual within the group will record the data from 3-5 families, which will give us the most chances of you having at least one "hit" when it comes to researching later. No student overlap allowed (you can't take data from any . While there, they will answer:

- Take a photo of the grave sites within the family, and note the section of the site on the grid.
- What is the name, date of birth and date of death on the gravestone?
- What kind of grave is it (vault, stone marker)?
- Describe the stone used for the grave marker (color, visual observation of texture, etc.)
- What text is written on the stone?
- What kinds of embellishments are on the grave?
- Does the ornamentation tell you anything about the person's life?
- What other family members are buried nearby, and what are their birth and death dates?
- Are there any symbols on the stone? If so, draw them on your record sheet as best as you can.
- How is the marker oriented (i.e. facing north, south, east or west)?
- What is the size of the gravestone? (Size might indicate social status)
- In what condition is the grave site? Is it well kept up? Is it in need of repair? Is the text easy to read?
- Are there any indications of people having visited the grave site recently?

Task 2:

Next, we are going to look to see if people used to live shorter or longer lives during the different decades that the cemetery has been in operation. After you have collected information from 3-5 sites, work on just gathering data as a small group. Gather data on the following sheet (one per small group).

ID #	Last name	First Name	M (1) F (2)	Birth month	Birth year	Death month	Death year	Age

Task 3:

When you come back to the school, you will research the historical context of the lives of a few of their chosen people, finding out what was happening when the person was born, what major events occurred during their lifetime, and what was happening when they died.

1790- 1820	1821-1850	1851-1870	1871-1890	1891-1918	1919-1929	1930-1947	1948-1960	1961 -1976	1976-1985	1986-1992	1992-2000
Fashion											
Food											
Communication											
Transportation											
Food											
War/ president											

Task 4:

Your group will [add its data on the following data spreadsheet on the following lines:](#)

- Group 1: 2-12
- Group 2: 13-22
- Group 3: 23-32
- Group 4- 33-42
- Group 5: 43-52
- Group 6: 53-62
- Group 7: 63-72
- Group 8: 73-82
- Group 9: 83-92
- Group 10: 93-102
- Group 11: 103-112

Group 12: 113-122

Resources:

[Florida's Historic Cemeteries: A Preservation Guide](#)

[Master Site File](#)

[Cemetery Gravesite Lessons](#)

[Polk County Cemetery Project](#)

[ONline Research Tools Polk County](#)