

Preparation for:

Family Life Merit Badge
Genealogy Merit Badge



Project Family

1-2 Meetings

Takeaways

- Finding out more about their families
- Accepting Responsibility
- A Scout is Loyal

Complete 1–5 and any two from 6–8.

1. Interview a grandparent, another family elder, or a family friend about what life was like when he or she was growing up. Share his or her story with another family member.
2. Talk with members of your family about your family name, history, traditions, and culture. Create a family tree of three generations, or make a poster or Web page that shows the origins of your ancestors. Or choose a special celebration or holiday that your family participates in, and create either a poster, picture, or photo slideshow of it. Share this project with your den.
3. Show your understanding of your duty to family by creating a chart listing the jobs that you and other family members have at home. Choose three of the jobs you are responsible for, and chart them for two weeks.
4. Select ONE of the jobs below that belongs to another family member, and help that person complete it:
 - a. Create a grocery shopping list for the week.
 - b. Complete the laundry for your family one time.
 - c. Help prepare meals for your family for one day.
5. Create a list of community service or conservation projects that you and your family can do together, and present it to your family. Select one project, plan it, and complete it with your family.
6. With the help of an adult, inspect your home and its surroundings. Make a list of hazards or security problems you find. Correct one problem you found, and tell what you did.
7. Hold a family meeting to plan an exciting family activity. The activity could include:
 - a. A family reunion
 - b. A family night
 - c. A family outing
8. Have your family event. Afterward, tell your parent or guardian what you liked best about the event.

1. Interview a Grandparent, Family Elder, or Family Friend

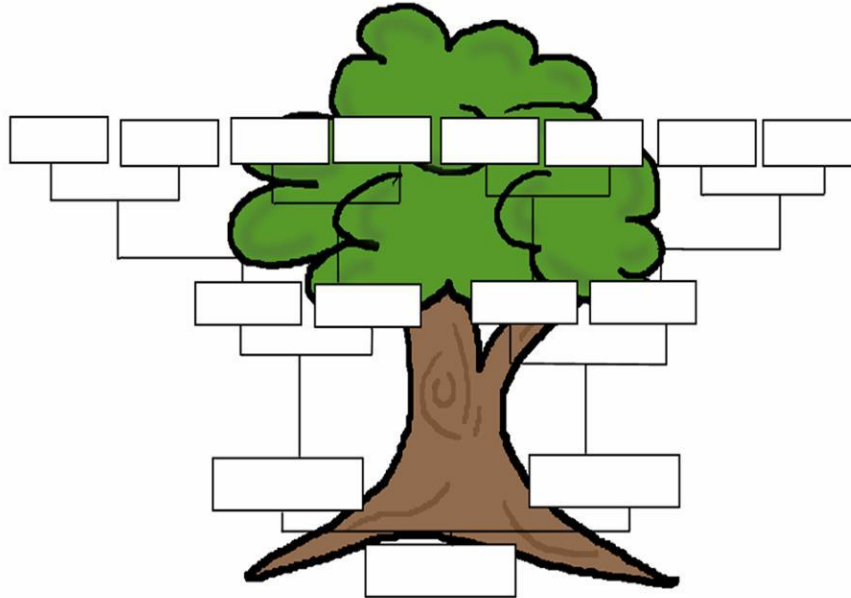
Here are some questions to get you started:

1. When and where were you born?
2. What were your parents' names?
3. What is your happiest memory of your father? Your mother?
4. What is the most important lesson your parents taught you?
5. What are the names of your grandparents?
6. What is your happiest memory of your grandfather? Grandmother?
7. How many brothers and sisters do you have? What do you remember about them from growing up?
8. Where did you grow up?
9. What did you do for fun as a child?
10. How did you like school?
11. What did you want to be when you grew up?
12. Who were your heroes or role models when you were young?
13. What big world events were the most memorable while you were growing up?
14. What kinds of clothes, hobbies, slang terms were popular when you were a teenager?
15. Did you go to college? What did you study? If you didn't go to college, do you wish you had had the opportunity? What did you do instead?
16. What jobs have you had? What was your favorite job?
17. How did you meet your spouse? How old were you when you met/got engaged/got married? What was the wedding like?
18. How many children do you have? What were they like when they were growing up?
19. What's your favorite book or movie and why? What was your favorite when you were young?
20. Do you know any stories about the history of the family name, or the origins of the family?



2. Learn About Your Family History. Create a Family Tree, Origins Poster, or Celebration poster.

MY FAMILY TREE



Origins Poster Example

3. Make a chart showing the jobs you and other family members have at home.

With your parent make a list of the different jobs you, and other members of your family have at home.

On your cardstock paper, use the ruler and a marker to draw a grid for a week's worth of jobs that you will do. Example below:

My Job Chart

<i>Jobs</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
<i>Clean my room</i>	✓		✓		✓		
<i>Take out garbage</i>							✓
<i>Fold/hang my laundry</i>			✓				
<i>Do dishes</i>		✓		✓		✓	
<i>Feed the Dog</i>	✓			✓		✓	
<i>Mow the lawn</i>					✓		
<i>Weed the garden</i>						✓	

4. Select ONE of the jobs below that belongs to another family member, and help that person complete it:

a. Create a grocery shopping list for the week.



b. Complete the laundry for your family one time.



c. Help prepare meals for your family for one day.



5. Create a list of community service or conservation projects that you and your family can do together

1. Make Valentine's for Senior Citizens.
2. Collect sleep-away camp items for children and families who have to stay in hospitals.
3. Donate kids' craft kits to a local children's hospital.
4. Organize a board game night at your local nursing home.
5. Make a no-sew fleece blanket for a child in need through Project Linus.
6. Organize a food drive in your neighborhood, church, or school.
7. When school supplies are very cheap at the beginning of the year, pack up a backpack and supplies for a local child in need (the YMCA frequently collects these, in addition to other organizations).
8. Bring gently used board games and decks of cards to a local homeless shelter.
9. Put on gloves and pick up litter at your local park.
10. Collect DVD's and videogames you no longer use/watch and donate them to a Children's Hospital for patients.
11. Stuff warm socks with snacks and fruit to pass out to people who are homeless.
12. Secretly rake leaves or shovel snow for a neighbor in need.
13. Volunteer to read letters or the newspaper to residents in nursing homes.
14. Donate used baby and toddler toys to a nearby church, synagogue, mosque, or temple for their youngest members. Most places of worship have a place for little ones to be entertained during services.
15. Go through the books you've grown out of and donate them to the waiting room of a local dentist or doctor.
16. Donate your gently used stuffed animals to a local firehouse or police station to give to children in emergencies.
17. Find out when the next sporting event is for your local Special Olympics teams, and go there as cheerleaders for the participants with signs, balloons, and noisemakers.
18. Work with your friends to make a "New Student" guide to your town that includes your favorite parks, a map of the neighborhood, and fun things to do.
19. Plant a garden or tree that your school or neighborhood can enjoy.

7. Hold a family meeting to plan an exciting family activity.



The activity could include:

- a. A family reunion
- b. A family night
- c. A family outing

8. Have your family event. Afterward, tell your parent or guardian what you liked best about the event.

