

Preserving Family History
Keesha Narenkivicius and Ty Bliss
Columbine Elementary/Prarie Ridge Elementary
Grand Junction/Longmont, Colorado

OVERVIEW

Students will gather and help preserve information about their family history.

STANDARDS

- History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of information.
- Reading and Writing Standard 4: Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.
- Reading and Writing Standard 5: Students read to locate, select and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, references and technology sources.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Interview members of their family
- Do family history research
- Take the initiative in recording and preserving their family history

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- How do you “read” a photograph?
- How do you find information that will help you interpret a historic photograph?

PROCEDURES

- 1 Ask each student to find four or five old family photographs that include at least one person who is not identified and whom they do not recognize. Ask them to bring one of those photographs to class.
- 2 Have each student do a "think aloud" with that photograph. That is, the student should express his/her own curiosity about who the unidentified person is, whether he/she may have been a relative, and point to clues (such as where and when the photo was taken) that may help answer

these questions.

- 3 Emphasize that the importance of recording the names of family members who appear in old photographs while there is still someone around who recognizes them. Otherwise, the family may lose track of its history.
- 4 Hand out the "Family Memory Record Sheet" (see below) and ask the students to interview a parent or relatives who can help them identify the unrecognized persons in the photographs they have selected. They should record the information on the sheet.
- 5 On a designated day, the students are to bring the photographs and the record sheet to school and share their information with the class.
- 6 They can then make a photo album with their photographs, writing captions using the information they have gathered. (This may help some students notice and read captions in books!)
- 7 Students should be encouraged to continue collecting information about other family pictures.

Family Memory Record Sheet

<p>(Place photo or draw a sketch of it here.)</p>	<p>Who _____</p> <p>How are the people related to you _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Where _____ _____ _____</p> <p>When _____ _____</p> <p>What was the event? _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Why was the picture taken? _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Who took the picture? _____ _____</p>
---	--