

Objectives

Learn how to bring your family history to life. Let's pick out a few of our favorite stories, dust them off and give them a shiny new look, so that we can introduce them to our children and grandchildren and make memorable and meaningful connections across generations. Specifically, we will ...

1. Identify 4 family stories that you want to work with.
2. Discuss creative and unique ways to make them more accessible.
3. Commit to implementing one or more of these ideas in your home.
4. Invite family members to use technology and mobile devices to more effectively connect and strengthen relationships that matter most.

Review

- Use sensory experiences trigger personal stories and family connections.
- Improve access to people and stories by condensing available information.
- Display everyday objects to spark interest in your family history and increase familiarity with people and stories.
- Map your progress on a pedigree or fan chart.

Outline & Notes

Introduction to *visual and spatial* storytelling (my Long Hall chain)

Four family stories + four fun projects

One

Story: My father in law, Gary, helped build the rocket that put man on the moon.

Project: We Were There

Two

Story: Norway to Washington. How did we get here?

Project: Globetrotters

Three

Story: I descend from the first baby born to a handcart pioneer.

Project: Mama's Jar of Toy Stories

Four

Story: My Grandpa McDougal loved watermelon.

Project: Watermelon for James on Instagram

Discussion of how to make something memorable

1. Joshua Foer's TED Talk and the Baker/baker paradox

Let's increase the tethering of neurons by using ...

Attention

Novelty

Context

Significance

Emotions

Repetition

Love & Trust

Advice for engaging *busy* extended families

1. Make simple requests
2. Remember visual + spatial
3. Go mobile
4. Repeat

"I wish I had realized that family history is a perishable commodity. It disappears with time, as memories fade, and as loved ones pass on. I wish I had known that the most important aspect of family history is preserving a record of the present for the future." *Guy Black*

Notes

Let's keep sharing ...

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