

Sharing Your Family History with Your Children and Grandchildren

“When an old man dies a library burns to the ground”

Children who know their family stories are more resilient. Tell stories about hard stuff.

Preserving Memories

- ★ FamilySearch, Ancestry, My Heritage, and Find My Past all have a place for memories
- ★ The Sacramento FamilySearch Center 2745 Eastern Ave, Sacramento - has digitizing equipment - and it is free to use!
- ★ Put home movies on YouTube in a private account

“Find a way to make sure that these stories are not just living inside computers. Share them with those around you. Do it at the dinner table, at the carpool, when you’re taking a walk, when you’re folding the laundry. Make Family History a part of your every day.

- Bruce Feiler (RootsTech 2016)

Please note: I am going to be sharing many ideas. I invite you to choose one of two to do with your family. Do not (be like me!) try to do it all. It is overwhelming.

Most of all have fun creating memories while you share memories!

Make prompt cards to have at your dinner table, in the car, in your family room - anywhere you can grab them. (There are many out there to purchase, or look on Pinterest for ideas to make your own!)

When to tell family stories:

While you build Legos

When you gather on holidays

While you do puzzles

When you are cooking

When you play board games

When looking at photo albums

When you tell bedtime stories

When you are driving in the car

At any family gathering

Bedtime stories

While camping, picnicking, or on vacations

When you see something in your house or when you are out that reminds you of a story

Make family games to help you tell stories, such as Go Fish! Or a matching game

Have young ones do an heirloom hunt around your house and tell stories about the heirlooms.

Tell the stories of the pictures you didn't take - make a list of them so you can be sure to remember them

What if I can't think of stories?

Look at items around your home - everyday items

Look around you everywhere you go - stores, restaurants, parks, etc.

Let books, magazine articles, TV shows, and social media trigger your memory

What if you don't know a story about an ancestor? Create it from their sources.

Online places to share your memories - Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, Websites, YouTube, text messages, What's App

Give gifts that were a favorite of the grandparents

Mini-books:	Photo Books
	Short Story Books
	Bedtime Stories
	Topic Books*
	Recipe books
	Binders and Scrapbooks

***Topic Ideas:**

Ancestor ABC Book

Birthday Calendar

Jobs/Careers - Where did Grandma and Grandpa work?

Heirlooms

Family Traditions

Strong Women

Brave Men

Love Story

Athletes

Any hobby or interest
Grandparent (or anyone else) coloring book

Let grandchildren illustrate your stories
Search Google and Pinterest for ideas
Write a story or poem or limerick about an ancestor.
Write a song! - [Suno.com](https://suno.com) (AI assisted)
Generate Chapters using Gemini Storybook (AI)

Less expensive than a hardbound book: Binders, scrapbooks, coil bound books, dollar store photo books

Do you have family newsletters, Christmas letters, other letters, etc?
Copy and put them together. (Be sure to look for the least expensive copy store in town)



Family Photos - QR Code (this is a sample QR code)
My Heritage Animated Photos

Sharing for holidays:

Valentine's Day - Family Love Stories
Mother's Day - Stories of women in the family
Memorial Day - Cemeteries!!!
Father's Day - Stories of men in the family
Labor Day - Types of jobs worked by family members
Halloween - Dia de los Muertos
Veteran's Day - stories about the veterans in your family
Holiday Memories and Traditions

Invite family members to join you in your family history journey - what matches their interest?

The teacher	Cars
The investigator	Architecture
The traveler	Quilting
The photographer	Needlework
The creator	Writing

The artist
The seamstress
The historian

History
Sports

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