



Genealogy at School --3rd and 4th Grades

Student Handout



Introduction to Genealogy

Special words are underlined. You just have to consult the glossary to see the definition.

Would you like to find your ancestors? This document will help you to learn what genealogy is.

Genealogy is the study of a family's history - from children to parents, to grandparents, to great-grandparents to great-great-grandparents... and so on!

Figure it out ... if you go back four generations to your great-great-grandparents, how many ancestors have you?

What's so fascinating about genealogy? Genealogy is a lot like trying to put all the pieces of a big puzzle together.

Do you sometimes ask these questions? Take the test:

- Where do I come from?
- Why do I live in this part of the world?
- When did my family arrive in Canada?

So, explore your family's past. Make the journey through time.

How to find out more about your family and ancestors... Follow these 5 steps to help you find information and complete your Family Chart.

Step 1: Start by... You!

Write down all the names and information you know about your family. Write them into the Family Chart (last pages of this document).



Step 2: Ask family members...

Interview your parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. This will help you find more information about your [ancestors](#). Look at the interview guide and the list of questions!

Guide to interviewing

1. Make a list of all the people you would like to interview.
2. Before starting, write the name of the person you are interviewing on the questionnaire.
3. An interview can be conducted in person, by telephone, by e-mail, or by writing a letter and sending your questionnaire.
4. To remember all the information you are given, write down the information and take notes during the interviews. You can also audiotape or videotape the interviews.

Interview questions:

Your name: _____

My relation to you: _____

Questions to ask:

1. When where you born?

2. Where were you born?

3. Are you married?

4. Where do you live?

5. What type of job do you have?

6. What are the names of your parents and grandparents?



7. Can you tell me stories about your parents and grandparents?

8. Can you tell me where your parents and grandparents lived?

9. What is your favourite family memory?

10. Do you remember special family traditions?

11. Do you have a special story about me when I was younger?

Remember to send the people who help you a copy of your final Family Chart... and of course thank them for their help!

Step 3: Look for clues ... and become an Ancestor Detective!

Special documents can help you find information about your family and [family events](#).

1. **Baby books:** Parents write information in baby books. Where were you born? What were your first words?
2. **Birth or death announcements:** Some people announce the [birth](#) and [death](#) of family members in the newspaper. You will find important information, such as names of parents and important dates.
3. **Letters:** New and old letters are a great way to find stories about your family.
4. **Photo albums:** A photo album will give you many clues. Discover what family members looked alike, how they dressed, what they did, and where they lived.
5. **The Internet:** Special websites can help you find information about your [family history](#). However, when you find information or documents on the Internet, ask yourself these questions: What type of document is this? What is the date of the document? Who created the document?

Visit the following websites:

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy.

In the box Ancestors Search, enter your family name and see what happens.

www.familysearch.org

Step 4: Fill out the Family Chart!

The Family Chart is like a [Family Tree](#) and it's a great way to keep the information you found during your research! Write down the information in each section. To make it easier for you, each person receives a number in the Chart. Pay attention to the numbers!



Attention: It's important to handle old documents with care. Ask permission to photocopy the documents and create a book with the photocopies. You might want to add tabs to your book to indicate each [generation](#).

Step 5: A project on your family. It's showtime!

Create a presentation panel that shows the information you found on your family. Your presentation should include:

1. Your [given name](#) and [surname](#);
2. Your Family Chart;
3. A fascinating facts section;
4. Funniest story about your [siblings](#), [maternal ancestors](#) or [paternal ancestors](#);
5. Photos (photocopies);
6. Photocopy of an old document;
7. A favourite family recipe. Why not bring a sample of the recipe for your presentation?

Now to try to find as many family members as possible and complete one of the two Family Charts! To go back 5 [generations](#) you would need to identify **31** family members ... WOW!

Family Chart

1st generation

1. Me
 Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Death: _____

2nd generation

2. Father of #1
 Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Death: _____

3. Mother of #1
 Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Date of Death: _____

3rd generation



4. Grandfather (Father of #2)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

5. Grandmother (Mother of #2)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

6. Grandfather (Father of #3)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

7. Grandmother (Mother of #3)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

4th generation

8. Great-grandfather (Father of #4)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

9. Great-grandmother (Mother of #4)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

10. Great-grandfather (Father of #5)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

11. Great-grandmother (Mother of #5)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____



12. Great-grandfather (Father of #6)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

13. Great-grandmother (Mother of #6)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

14. Great-grandfather (Father of #7)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

15. Great-grandmother (Mother of #7)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

5th generation

16. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #8)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

17. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #8)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

18. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #9)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

19. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #9)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____



20. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #10)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

21. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #10)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

22. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #11)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

23. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #11)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

24. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #12)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

25. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #12)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

26. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #13)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

27. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #13)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____



28. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #14)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

29. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #14)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

30. Great-great-grandfather (Father of #15)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

31. Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #15)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____