

This is

_____ 'S

Family History



Office of Historic Alexandria
www.alexandriava.gov/history

What is an Oral History?

Every person, family, and community has its own unique story. Everyone has a history, no matter how old or young they are.

By sharing your own story and asking others to share their stories with you, you can preserve history.

One way we learn about the past is from **oral histories**. **Oral histories** are conversations with people about their past. Professional historians interview people and record or write down what they say to help remember the past – it is one way that museums preserve history.

But you don't have to be a historian to interview someone about their memories – anyone can do it!

Partner with someone in your household and ask each other the questions in this booklet. If you have a printer, you should print one copy for each of you so you can write down the other person's answers. You can start learning about your family's history by asking them what they remember about their past!

Who Am I?

Ask your family member these questions. Write down their answers.

My full name is:

I am _____ years old.

I live in:

City: _____

State: _____

Who am I? (continued)

Ask your family member these questions. Write down their answers.

My favorite color is:

My favorite sport is:

My favorite hobby is:

Three words that describe me
are:

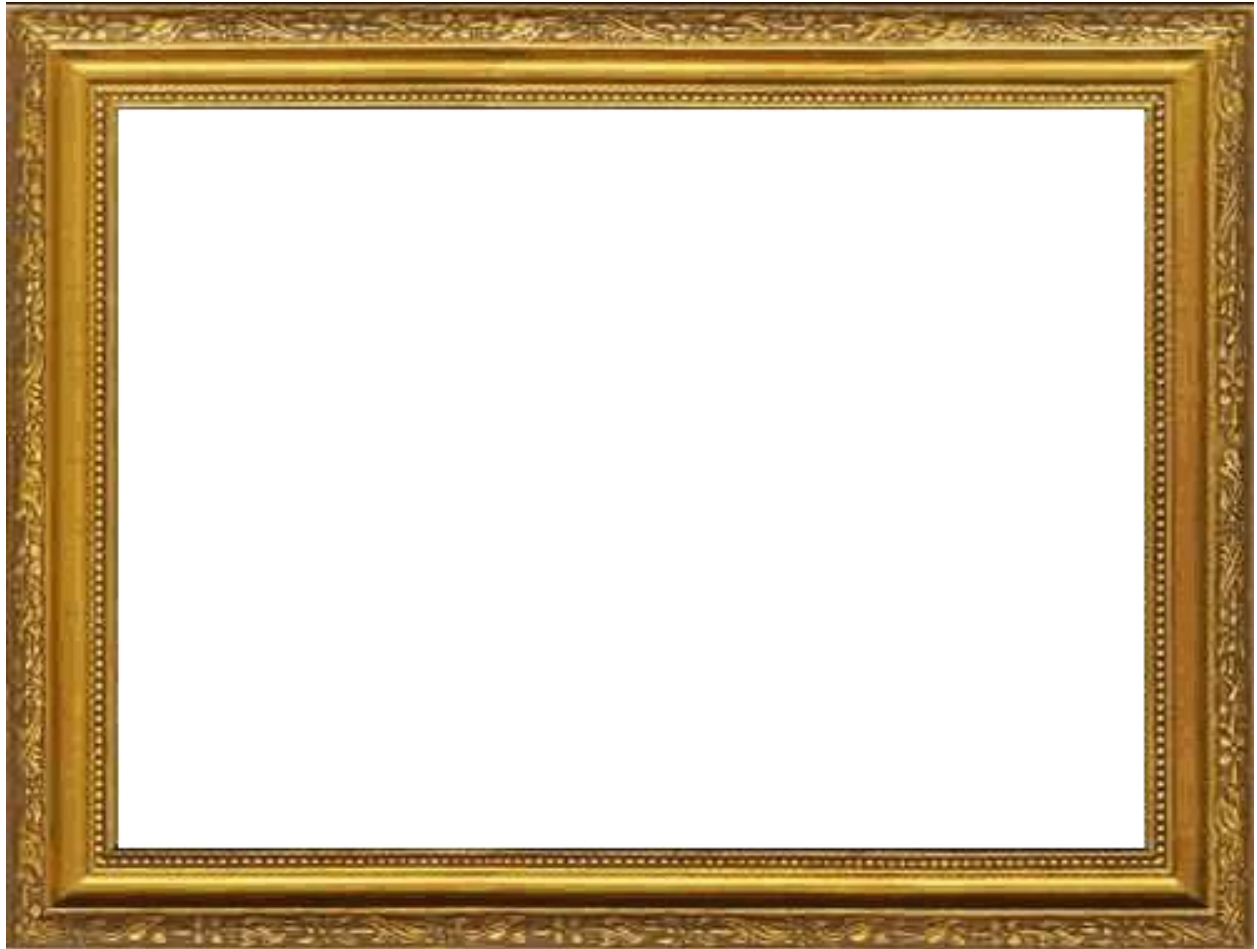
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Our Family

Have your family member draw a picture of their family below.



Switch packets. Who is in the picture they drew above? _____

Our Family (continued)

Ask your family member these questions. Write down their answers.

Three words that describe the family member I am interviewing are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

When we are together, our family likes to do these things:

One of my favorite things about our family is:

What is different right now?

Life is different right now. There is a disease called COVID-19 that is making some people feel unwell. I am not able to go to some of my favorite places or do some of my favorite things right now. I am staying home to help people stay healthy. My family may be doing different things than we usually do. Ask your family member these questions:

What is one favorite place or thing that you miss doing?:

What is one favorite thing that you have done in the past month?

What do you miss right now?

Draw a picture of something you miss
right now:

What is your favorite thing to do at home?

Draw a picture of a favorite thing you have done during the past month:

What are you looking forward to doing?

Draw a picture of a favorite thing you will do when you are no longer staying at home: