

Picture Books (J-Easy)

The Great Whipplethorp Bug Collection
by Ben Brashares

Florence and her Fantastic Family Tree
by Judy Gilliam

Paper Son: Lee's Journey to America
by Helen Foster James & Virginia Shin-Mui Loh

Let Me Fix You a Plate: A Tale of Two Kitchens
by Elizabeth Lilly

Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story
by Kevin Noble Maillard

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family
by Ibtihaj Muhammad with S. K. Ali

Gittel's Journey: An Ellis Island Story
by Leslea Newman

My Family Tree and Me
by Dušan Petričić

Watch Me: A Story of Immigration and Inspiration
by Doyin Richards

We Came to America
by Faith Ringgold

The Welcome Chair
by Rosemary Wells

This Is our House
by Hyewon Yum

J-Nonfiction

National Geographic Kids Guide to Genealogy
by Tamara J. Resler J-929 RESL

Books for Teens: Fiction

The Downstairs Girl
by Stacey Lee

Tokyo Ever After
by Emiko Jean

Darius the Great Is Not Ok
by Adib Khorram

You Bring the Distant Near
by Mitali Perkins

Bridge of Clay
by Markus Zusak



Sign up for our monthly newsletter so you don't miss out on any of the great programs PPLD offers!

ppld.org/homeschool-hub/newsletters

Books for Teens: Nonfiction

The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion & the Fall of Imperial Russia
by Candace Fleming 947.083 F597F

How to Write Compelling Stories from Family History
by Annette Gendler 929.1072 GEND

The Beautiful Struggle: A Memoir
by Ta-Nehisi Coates 975.26 COAT

Proud: Living My American Dream
by Ibtihaj Muhammad 796.862092 MUHA

Free Lunch
by Rex Ogle 362.7092 OGLE

Activity: Generations Photo Collage

Connect with your ancestors and their stories by making a photo collage!

1. Ask an adult to help you find pictures of a few of your ancestors at a similar age or in a similar pose as a picture of you.
2. Put the pictures in chronological order, starting with the oldest photo first and ending with the picture of you.
3. Once the photos are lined up in a row take a picture of them or scan them to make a generational photo collage.
4. Print, frame, or post your collage.



Questions you can ask:

1. How do you look alike?
2. How do you look different?
3. What were they like at your age?
4. Who do you think you are most like?
5. What hopes and dreams did they have, and how did those turn out?
6. Who would you like to be like and why?

To contact PPLD's Homeschool Committee, please email jfleishhacker@ppld.org.



Homeschool Connections

An Educational Resource Tool WINTER 2022

LOCATION KEY

- CA** **Calhan Library**
600 Bank St., Calhan
(719) 531-6333, x7013
- CH** **Cheyenne Mountain Library**
1785 S. 8th St.
(719) 531-6333, x7001
- EA** **East Library**
5550 N. Union Blvd.
(719) 531-6333, x7014
- eLibrary**
ppld.org
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- FO** **Fountain Library**
230 S. Main St., Fountain
(719) 531-6333, x7002
- HI** **High Prairie Library**
7035 Old Meridian Rd., Peyton
(719) 531-6333, x7003
- Knights of Columbus Hall**
20 W. Pikes Peak Ave.
(719) 531-6333, x6142
- KCH** **Library 21c**
1175 Chapel Hills Dr.
(719) 531-6333, x7012
- LI** **Manitou Springs Library**
515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs
(719) 531-6333, x7004
- MA** **Mobile Library Services**
ppld.org/mobile-library-services
(719) 531-6333, x7702
- MO** **Monument Library**
1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr., Monument
(719) 531-6333, x7005
- OL** **Old Colorado City Library**
2418 W. Pikes Peak Ave.
(719) 531-6333, x7006
- PA** **Palmer Lake Library**
66 Lower Glenway St., Palmer Lake
(719) 531-6333, x7007
- PE** **Penrose Library**
20 N. Cascade Ave.
(719) 531-6333, x7015
- RO** **Rockrimmon Library**
832 Village Center Dr.
(719) 531-6333, x7008
- RU** **Ruth Holley Library**
685 N. Murrery Blvd.
(719) 531-6333, x1584
- SA** **Sand Creek Library**
1821 S. Academy Blvd.
(719) 531-6333, x7018
- UT** **Ute Pass Library**
8010 Severy Rd., Cascade
(719) 531-6333, x7011



Homeschool Hub | ppld.org/homeschool-hub

Whether you are a veteran homeschooling family, or just getting started, visit the PPLD Homeschool Hub to check out community and library events, sign up for eNewsletters, and access reading lists. Click on the "Resources" tab to link to information on getting started, Colorado homeschool laws, local enrichment programs, tutoring, extracurricular activities, support organizations, and more.

A Family History

By Brady Nickerson, Senior Associate, Library 21c

If you do a little research, you might find you have a skeleton or two in your closet! While some skeletons are best kept there, in my case, I discovered an intriguing historical chronicle. One of the many interesting stories I heard from my family reminded me of a movie I once saw, and it might ring a few bells for you as well.

It was 1944, and World War II seemed far away from the small town of Claremore, OK. But on a brisk autumn day, Donna Lantow rode her bicycle past an unwanted sight: a small group of "church women" walking toward her home. Unfortunately, this scene was not unfamiliar. It alerted the townsfolk just how close the war really was.

Donna was the youngest child of Harry Dale and Olive Mae "Ollie" (Sledd) Lantow, both born and raised in Lyons, KS. Harry took a job as a manager of a lumber yard in Claremore, where he and Ollie raised six children: Donna, Betty, Larry, Bob, Norman, and Billy.

The boys were revered for their skills as high school athletes, playing football on a field that would later be named in their honor (Lantow Field). Larry, the eldest, served in World War II as a tank commander in the 3rd Armored Division. Bob and Norman enlisted as paratroopers in the celebrated 101st Airborne Division. According to Donna, they were paid an extra \$50 a month in jump pay! Billy was too young for World War II but served in the Korean war. He was captured but was able to escape by tossing a hand grenade at his captors.

In the early 1940s, their father had fallen ill and money did not flow as freely. Bob, known as the quiet, studious brother, served with the 502nd parachute infantry regiment and was killed on June 13, 1944, just a week after D-Day, during a German counterattack at the town of Carentan (later known as the Battle of Bloody Gulch). During his D-Day parachute drop, Norman took a bullet to his calf and was captured by the German army. He later escaped, was sent to England to recuperate, and returned in September 1944, parachuting into Holland for Operation Market Gardens. He and his men took shelter in a shed that was destroyed by an 88 mm artillery shell. The date was November 11, 1944, Armistice Day, the same day that marked the end of World War I.

Larry was still serving as a tank commander. After the news that the two Lantow brothers had been killed, the town of Claremore collected over 1,000 signatures imploring that Larry be sent home. When Larry asked, "Do I have a choice?" his commanding officer replied, "No you don't."

After telling me this story, Larry's nephew, David Nickerson, my father-in-law, introduced me to Kevin M. Callahan's *Brothers in Arms* (2020), a book that showcases the experiences of the Lantows and many other brothers who died while fighting in American wars. It's an interesting and sad read but also a reminder of those whom we should never forget.

As you take time to reflect on your own family history, remember to share the stories, write them down, and keep the memories alive for future generations.



Calling all budding scientists! Our annual **Homeschool Science Fair** is open to grades K-12! Homeschool students are invited to demonstrate a science project for other families. *Registration required.*

REGISTRATION IS OPEN TUE., JAN. 11 - MON., FEB. 14



The New Bookshelf: Family Stories in Picture Books

On the Trapline

by David A. Robertson

In this lovely picture book, a grandson accompanies his grandfather to see the Swampy Cree homelands in Canada, where the man ran a trapline 70 years ago. Grandpa talks about the land, what they did here and there, and how the family lived close together in olden times. The author briefly tells his family story at book's end.

Ages 4-10
J-Easy ROSE

Accordionly

by Michael Genhart

A little boy has two grandpas who are alike and different at the same time. Both play the accordion, but one speaks Spanish and the other speaks German. When they are both at the child's house one holiday, they are unable to say much to one another. But once they begin playing music, joy and happiness bubble over to all. Genhart shares his family story and photos at the end of this charming tale.

Ages 4-10
J-Easy GENH

The Water Lady

by Alice B. McGinty

Imagine living in a land so dry that water must be delivered. This story takes place in the Navajo Nation, where someone must drive to a water tower, fill the household water cans, and drive home. But many live too far to make the drive and depend on Darlene Arviso to fill a tanker truck and deliver it to them. Author's notes tell more about the Navajo Nation and Darlene's importance for both the water and the kindness she brings with her each day.

Ages 4-10
J-Biography 979.100497 ARVI

Watercress

by Andrea Wang

A little girl, mortified at having to gather watercress at the side of the road, gradually learns why this potherb is important to her Chinese immigrant parents. The author shares, both in the story and book's end, the importance of family stories, even those that are difficult to tell, such as times of famine and extreme poverty.

Ages 4-10
J-Easy WANG

Lincoln Clears a Path: Abraham Lincoln's Agricultural Legacy

by Peggy Thomas

Abe Lincoln has family stories, too, and some may be just like those from your family. Traveling west in covered wagons. Clearing heavily forested lands for farming. Working as postmaster in a small town. Moving trade goods up and down the rivers of America. Lincoln's stories include historical events. Your family's stories do, too.

Ages 4-10
J-Biography 973.7092 LINC

Tell YOUR Family Stories...

The library is full of family stories. We can read about families in faraway lands and long-ago times. We learn about other people through these stories—how we are different and how we are the same.

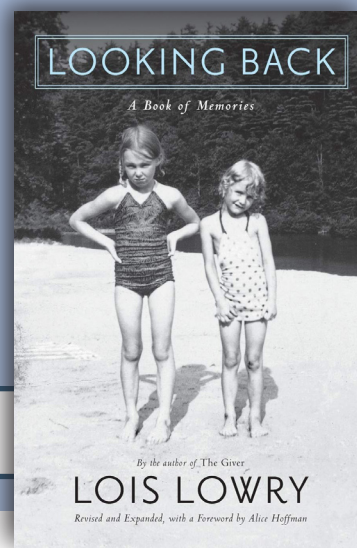
You should be telling your children stories about your family. Think of it as a picture book about your mother, your father, your grandmother, or yourself when you were a child. Try and remember stories that would appeal to a child.

Old photographs provide a great way to get started telling family stories. Need a little more help? Lois Lowry's *Looking Back* (Teen Biog. 813.54 LOWR) is her family story, told simply, with photographs. Check out the book or look at the first few pages on Amazon to get a better idea of the final product.

Use photographs of current family events, too. Everyone can tell their story of the day and the event. Assign a family scribe and get the story written down. Make sure each photo page has the year, full names of the people included, and how they are related. Use your preferred word processing program to insert photos and preserve the story. Print this document on acid free paper and slide the paper into acid free sleeve protectors. Once in this format, pictures can be admired, and stories read over and over.



Looking Back
by Lois Lowry



Other Cool Resources: Family History

American Ancestors: Fun Family History Activities for Kids

americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/youth

These entertaining activities are designed to teach critical skills while encouraging kids to explore their connection to the past and their heritage (and develop a stronger sense of self). Included are directions and tips for conducting a family history interview with a relative, a fun detective-style template for exploring family photographs, a ready-to-fill-in family tree, a family heirloom scavenger hunt, a Youth Education Resource Guide, and more.

Family Tree Projects and Genealogy for Kids

familytreemagazine.com/kids-genealogy/

This website is packed with resources and activities that encourage families to explore their ancestry. Kids can access an array of word searches and scrambles, download a variety of forms and a family tree (up to five generations), or try a fun activity ("Grandma's Attic Scavenger Hunt," "Tour a Cemetery," "Create a Time Capsule—In Reverse," and more).

National Archives: Genealogy Activities for Kids

archives.gov/education/family-history

This page provides an array of downloads and activities that will engage kids and build interest in family history. Available are an array of family trees (including one for blended families and another for photos), maps that help trace migration and immigration journeys, and directions for creating a family food tree.

PPLD Resources: Family History



PPLD Databases

To access these educational resources (free with your library card and pin #) go to ppld.org/databases and type in the name of the database, or visit ppld.org/kids and click Homework.



CultureGrams Online

After you identify where your family hales from, dive into this robust resource to discover more about an array of countries and cultures. Not only will you get the facts about how people live around the world, but you will also meet people up close and personal during video interviews with residents young and old. Explore traditions and lifestyles around the globe and compare them to those of your own family.



Junior Worldmark Encyclopedia of Foods and Recipes of the World

Want to eat like your relatives? This four-volume set provides comprehensive coverage of foods and recipes from 70 representative countries and cultures worldwide, from Algeria to Zimbabwe.



AtoZ Maps Online

If you are interested in tracing your family's movements across the globe or the United States, visit this in-depth collection of downloadable maps. Take a look at the antique maps for different regions to give your family history search some old-time flair!



PPLD Regional History and Genealogy

Did you know that PPLD has a whole division dedicated to local history and genealogy? The materials are housed at Penrose Library. The Genealogy collection contains extensive family history research materials, covering the entire United States from Colonial times to the present, including books, periodicals, and access to major genealogical databases. Check out the resources listed here, plan a visit to Penrose, and check out the listing of PPLD genealogy classes for adults and older teens that introduce the basics.

DID YOU KNOW?

Companies like 23andMe offer DNA testing to determine your heritage, but the results of these tests can surprise even those who have extensively researched their family history. If you're from a proud Italian family, but your DNA test results claim you're 95% Scottish, does that mean you should invest in a kilt? Not necessarily.

Human DNA is made of billions of nucleotide pairs. Every rung on the ladder of your DNA is composed of an adenine-thymine pair, or a cytosine-guanine pair. While DNA is 99.9% similar between humans, there are variations in arrangement of these base pairs in certain regions of the DNA strand. A computer analyzes these tiny differences and compares them to the DNA of people with known heritage. The more similar your DNA is, the more likely you are to have the same heritage. The results you receive are a computer's best guess, based on the available data.

But when working with billions of pieces of data, tiny mistakes in analyzing DNA, or variation in the method used to compare DNA samples, can impact the end product. This is why identical twins, who have the same DNA, can receive different results. The family history of the people your DNA is being compared to may also be inaccurate, as the data is often self-reported.

DNA test results can be entertaining, and are often very accurate, but they don't provide as rich a story as your own family history. Our heritage is so much more than our DNA; make sure to ask your family members what they know about their ancestors!