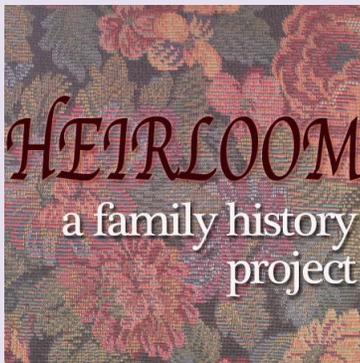


Heirloom Guide K-5



Inside:

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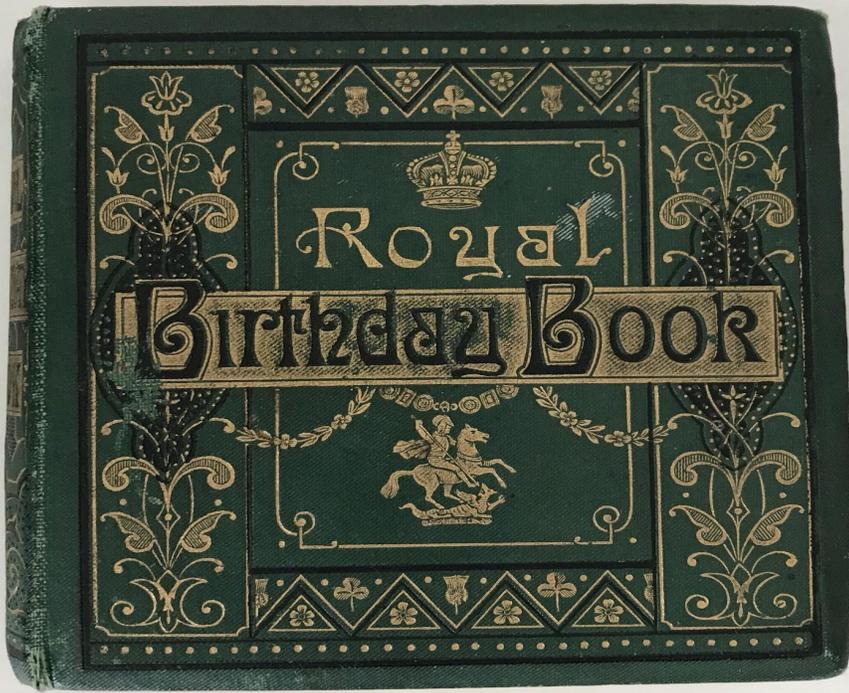


What is Heirloom?

Our older family members are often our closest links to history. Sometimes, their lives are shown by objects around our homes!

So what can we learn from objects passed down through our families?

Heirloom is a project everyone can take part in to learn more about our families' histories, through researching these objects, from photographs and books, to jewellery and cups - our family heirlooms!



*Choose
your
heirloom*

*Have you either wondered what the story is
behind your great-grandmother's ring?
Or someone smiling in an old photograph?*

What makes it special to you?

What do you already know?

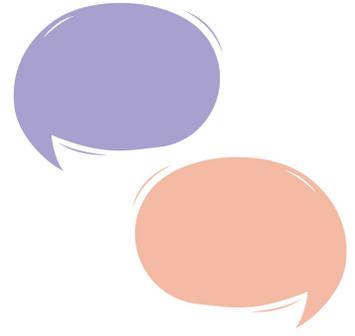
What do you want to know about it?

Who can you ask to help research the story?



Think about these questions as you begin your journey.

Ask, Listen, Learn



Now it's time to start talking

What do your family members know about your heirloom? Ask them how long it has been in the family, what it was used for and if there are any stories behind it!

You could even look at your local libraries, museums and other archives to see if they have similar objects or photographs, or maps of streets your relatives lived on!



Educational Standards

Common Core

Literacy.CCRA.SL.5.1

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Literacy.CCRA.W.5.7

Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

Questions you could ask:

- 1) How long has the heirloom been in the family?**
- 2) Where did it come from?**
- 3) What time period did it come from?**
- 4) What was it used for?**
- 5) Who bought/made/found it and why?**
- 6) Does anyone have memories of the heirloom or the person it came from?**

Dig Deeper

Archives help us learn more about our families and their connections to the world. You can find records, including:

- Birth and death certificates
- Marriage and divorce certificates
- Census records, including who lived with who
- Military records
- Newspaper articles
- Photographs
- Similar objects



Think about these questions:

- Who are you trying to find? Were they in the military or other organizations?
- What year did they live or acquire the heirloom?
- Was it unique to your hometown? Who made it?

Educational Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.7
Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10
By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Write the Story

Once you have finished your interviews and research, it is time to write your story.

Read through all of your research and think about the stories you have gathered to see how they relate to your life.

In your story, answer the following questions:

- *What is the object?*
- *Who did it belong to?*
- *What do you know about that person?*
- *Why is it important to your family?*
- *Does your heirloom have connections to any local, regional, or national moments in history?*



Ultimately, the story you tell is up to you. It can be short or long, focused on one person or many.

Educational Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

Girl Museum

We are the first and only online museum dedicated to girls.

We tell the stories of being born and growing up female around the world, in the past and the present. As a community of passionate and creative people, we advocate for girls as changemakers, not as victims or bystanders.

We are a registered 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization.

Learn more and get involved at www.GirlMuseum.org



Share Your Story

Educational Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.6

With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single sitting.

The last step is easy!

Share your story with your family and, if they are happy to, get them to send it along with a photo to heirloom@girlmuseum.org or to post it on social media with **#HeirloomProject!**

We will post your story on our Heirloom project website for all to see.

