

## PERSONAL HERITAGE INTERVIEWS

For students in 2nd grade

Developed by Grace Brown, Barringer Academic Center, 2005

### OVERVIEW:

Students explore the heritage of others in their family or community by conducting oral history interviews.

### OBJECTIVES:

Social Studies 3.01 - Compare similarities and differences between oneself and others.

Social Studies 3.02 - Describe similarities and differences among families in different communities.

Social Studies 3.03 - Compare similarities and differences among cultures in various communities.

Social Studies 3.04 - Identify multiple roles performed by individuals in their families and communities.

Social Studies Competency Goal 4: The learner will exhibit an understanding of change in communities over time.

Language Arts 3.01 - Use personal experiences and knowledge to interpret written and oral messages.

Language Arts 4.04 - Use oral communication to identify, organize, and analyze information.

Language Arts 4.05 - Respond appropriately when participating in group discourse by adapting language and communication behaviors to the situation to accomplish a specific purpose.

Language Arts 4.06 - Plan and make judgments about what to include in written products (e.g., narratives of personal experiences, creative stories, skits based on familiar stories and/or experiences).

**VOCABULARY:** oral history, interview, heritage, history, neighborhood, occupation, tradition, immigrants

### MATERIALS:

- Sample questions (attached)
- Notetaking paper, pencil
- Journal or scrapbook
- Family photographs, magazines, catalogs (pictures to be used as illustrations)

### TEACHER INPUT:

Ask students to interview an older relative or friend, using the questions provided (and pursuing questions of their own). Students should investigate how life has changed over time. Students should create a scrapbook of answers, family photos, pictures from magazines, etc. Note: This project should be assigned as homework over a holiday or long break, when visits with older relatives are most likely. Parental involvement should be encouraged.

**INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:** Students can practice interviewing each other, or interviewing the teacher. Teacher can recruit someone from outside the community to visit the classroom and be interviewed by the class.

**ASSESSMENT:** Students show work and discuss with classmates.

**INTEGRATION:** Art, Literacy, and Social Studies.



Dear Parents,

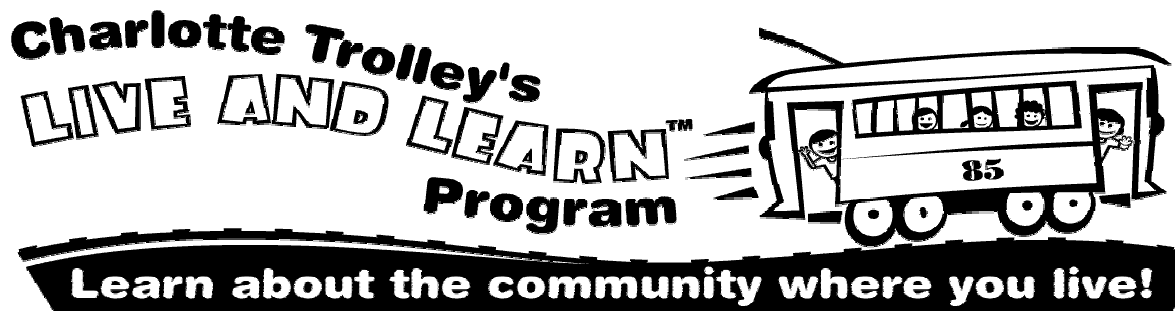
At school, we are studying how communities change over time. We would like to explore how our grandparents' early lives (or our older neighbors' early lives) were different from our lives today.

Can you please help your child interview a grandparent or elderly friend? An interview worksheet is attached.

This assignment is due \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for helping your child explore change in our community!

Sincerely,



### Personal Heritage Project - Suggested Interview Questions

Over the holiday, interview an older relative or friend. Investigate how life has changed over time. Find family photographs or pictures from magazines that illustrate some of the changes. Begin by using the questions below.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

You Interviewed \_\_\_\_\_

How Do You Know Your Interviewee? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Interview \_\_\_\_\_

1. What was your family life like when you were a child?
  - Size of family?
  - Parents' occupations?
  - Family hobbies or entertainment?
  - Family traditions?
  - Favorite food or meals?
  
2. Where did you live?
  - City? Country?
  - Type of neighborhood?
  - House? Apartment?
  
3. What was school like when you were in elementary school?
  - Size?
  - How did you get to school?
  - Type of lessons or classes?
  - Recess games?
  - Special occasions?
  - Snow days? Length of school year?
  
4. What kind of clothes did you wear? Hairstyle?
5. What did you do for fun?
6. What kinds of technology were used?
7. Were any relatives immigrants? If so, from what country?
8. Who were they and what do you know about them?
9. What major historical events do you remember?
10. What advice would you give today's generation?