



intergenerational

activities

Title

Make a family book

Season

Any, Indoor activity

Time

45 minutes

Target groups

Elderly
Children from age of 8

Objectives

To provide you with some ideas you can use in making a “Family tree” activity for elderly and young people working together.

Both the elderly and young people make their own family tree and show each other that this research is rewarding and fun.

Young people will also learn the meaning of such vocabulary as genealogy, generation, surname, maiden name and pedigree.

Resources

An Example of Family book as a list or you can make each question on a separate page and make it look like a book, You will also need coloured markers, glue, your own family photos (printed copies of old photographs), scissors. Young people will help elderly make their own their family book and to learn more about each other.

Description

Both elderly and young people made their own family tree and presented it (the number of family members, family traditions, family history, origin and meaning of the family name/surname etc). Some parents may also take part.

It's rather safe to say that most people know the names of their grandparents. Maybe even where they were born and their birthdays. But if you know also know the names of your great-grandparents, you're doing better than most.

For both children and elderly making a simple family book (see the example below) will teach them about their own extended family, make them feel special and at the centre of a specific group of people. It's important to explain to children that the word “genealogy” means the history of family. It is the history of their mother, father, grandmothers, grandfathers, great grandparents etcetera, on and on





into the past as far as they can go. This family history can be put into an order, called generations, of parents and their offspring.

If it's possible you can do this activity in advance with students who will work later with elderly on "Family tree" again. Have some preparation work at school with children. Talk about what makes a family. Discuss the fact that there are many different kinds of families, with many different configurations of adults, children, step-parents and step-brothers and -sisters.

Expand this family grouping by making a chart of all family members that each child has ever met in person, or spoken to on the telephone.

Illustrate the book (see an example below) with photos, copies of photos or drawings of the primary individuals. Remember that this is just an introduction to genealogy, meant to reinforce the concept that all families have histories..



EXAMPLE – MAKE A FAMILY BOOK

Illustrate with photos or drawings of the main individuals.

Remember that this is just an introduction to genealogy, meant to reinforce the concept that all families have histories

This is me! My name is _____.

This is my family

I live in a _____ house.

I like to play _____.

I like to eat _____.

My favorite place to go with my family is _____.

My favorite thing to do with my family is _____.

