Family History and Ancestry Extra Credit Project

*Directions: Complete any three of the activities listed below to receive extra credit in social studies class this semester. This opportunity will expire December 9th, no exceptions. Projects that are detailed and specific will earn 4% increase to your current social studies grade. Please note, for this extra credit to take effect, you must have no missing assignments in social studies class. Complete all missing work and submit it before submitting your family history project. Look for resources on my website homepage.*

**Activity #1** - Interview one relative from each of the three columns below. Interview question ideas can be found on my website homepage.

Column 1

Mom

Dad

Column 2

Aunt

Uncle

Column 3

Grandmother

Grandfather

**Activity #2** - Write a life story using the question guide from my website.

Your life story should be roughly 2-3 pages long and strictly about you and your own life and interests.

**Activity #3** - Share a family heirloom.

Take a picture of a family heirloom and discuss its meaning to your family in detail. Discuss what the heirloom is, where it originates, how long it’s been passed down in your family, and its significance to your family. This should be roughly one paragraph.

**Activity #4** - Celebrate with food.

Find and share an old family recipe. Fill out a recipe card with your recipe and write a narrative about your recipe. Your narrative should be no less than one paragraph.

**Activity #5** - Create a family tree.

Utilize sites like <https://familysearch.org/search> and <http://home.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> to help you complete your family tree. You may use an online family tree maker like <http://www.familyecho.com/> to complete this activity. Go as far back in your family tree as you can.

**Activity #6** - Talk it out.

Have a family discussion about any of your ancestors who left their native country. Why did they leave? Why did they feel it was important to leave? When did they leave? What sacrifices did they make when they left? What was it like in their former country? As you talk, take notes and write things down. After the discussion write out what you learned in a narrative. Get as detailed and specific as you possibly can.