

Gathering Family Stories

Overview

Where we come from shapes who we are, and the journeys our elders have taken help to shape not just their lives but also the overall culture of our own families. For this protocol students will be interviewing an elder in their family to learn about a significant journey that their elder has taken. It is not important how far the journey was, but only that it was important in shaping who they are.

Procedure

When interviewing, it often works best to use a device to record responses and then *transcribe* them afterward; and most mobile phones have a voice memo or other recording app that students can use for this purpose. However, if no recording device is available, they can record their family member's responses in writing as they talk. The family member can also help students in writing down or transcribing their responses.

Here are some questions for students to start with in gathering information about their elder's journey.

Where did you travel from and to?

How did you travel?

What happened along the way?

What did you bring with you?

How did this journey shape or impact our family? Or why was this journey important for our family?