Interview with a Family Member

Use these questions to interview an older family member or friend to learn about their life and their memories. You may discover how different things were for them, or be surprised by what you have in common.

Interview with: _______________________

Interviewed by: _______________________

• Does your name have a special meaning? Were you named after anyone?

• Do/did you have siblings? Tell me about them.

• When did your ancestors arrive here? Why did they come? Are there any stories about them that have been handed down?

• Do you have any famous relatives?

• What is your earliest childhood memory?
• Where did you grow up? Can you describe your home?

• How was grade school different for you than it is for me?

• How did you spend your summers as a child?

• Did you have pets when you were young? Tell me about them.

• Who was your closest childhood friend? Are you still in touch?

• What chores did you have to do when you were young?

• Who was your favorite teacher in high school?

• What is your all-time favorite movie? TV show? Song? Radio program?
• What's the most extraordinary trip you've ever taken? Where would like to go that you've never been?

• Did you ever serve in the military? What branch?

• What was the best job you ever had?

• If you could have had any career, what would it have been and why?

• Tell me about your first date.

• Have been married? How did you meet your spouse?

• Do you have children? How many?

• What was it like to become a parent? A grandparent?
• What are some of your hobbies?

• Do you have a favorite food or recipe?

• Do you speak any languages other than English?

• Have you ever played a musical instrument? Which one?

• What would you say was the most important historical moment you lived through or experienced?

• What do you feel was your greatest accomplishment?

• What is one of the biggest changes you've seen in society during your lifetime?

• What is a piece of advice you want to share with me?