



# Discovering Your Family

**Grade Level:** 10-12      **Lesson Plan Timeframe:** 3-6 class hours      **Program Topic:** Family Relations      **State:** CO  
**Prepared By:** Kathy Werner      **Chapter/School:** Swink High School

<b>Overview &amp; Purpose</b> <p>The students will gain understanding of their own family dynamics by researching family history.</p>	<b>FCCLA National Program(s)</b> <p>Families First  Power of One (Family Ties)</p>
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<b>Lesson Plan Goals &amp; Objectives</b>	<p>Through family research students will prepare a project about their own families. Using writing, communication and organizational skills to prepare this project.</p>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pencil</li> <li>• Paper</li> <li>• Presentation board or other method of displaying illustrations</li> <li>• Poster Board for Family Tree</li> <li>• Presentation software such as Power Point may also be used</li> <li>• Sample Family Tree Poster</li> </ul>
<b>Introduction of Subject</b> <small>(Give and/or demonstrate necessary information)</small>	<p>“We are Family” music playing as students do bell ringer writing (required by our school district). Begin by brainstorming and discussing the importance of family. Ask students to give examples of important family traditions and why they are part of their family. Discuss any careers that family members have pursued as a result of “following in someone’s footsteps”. Explain how family history and traditions help determine what families of today were formed. Have students fill out planning process to guide them in the project.</p>
<b>Verification</b> <small>(Steps to check for student understanding)</small>	<p>Questions throughout discussion will check for understanding. Review the planning process with each student.</p>

<p><b>Activity 1</b></p>	<p>Students should prepare a family tree. This tree should include at least four generations with the student being the most recent. Include birth dates, death dates and places of birth on the tree. Information for the tree should be gained from interviews from family members. (This is a great opportunity to spawn communication with parents.) Final tree should be created on poster board. Student can use fun creative methods of making their visual. Note: I have had adopted students who have asked the question of how they should do their research, I have encouraged them to use their adoptive family. This project has however encouraged a couple of my students to seek out biological relationships.</p>
<p><b>Activity 2</b></p>	<p>Students should prepare essays on four family stories. These stories should show the unique importance of their families. The stories should be from different generations but can be from people who are not included on their tree. (As encouragement I tell a few unique stories of my own family past.) Each story should contain a reference of where the information was gained.</p>
<p><b>Activity 3</b></p>	<p>Prepare a display of the information the student has learned about their family. This display should include the family tree, a copy of the stories and any other special memorabilia that will allow other students a glimpse of their family life. This display can show creativity and the uniqueness of the student.</p>
<p><b>Activity 4</b></p>	<p>Using the guidelines for the <a href="#">Illustrated Talk STAR Event</a>, have students prepare an oral presentation for their family project.</p>
<p><b>Summary/Evaluation</b> (Assign Homework, or Reflect on the Outcomes)</p>	<p>Essays will be evaluated using the Swink School District rubric for essay writing. (Check with the English Department of your school for required elements for essays.) The oral presentation will be evaluated using the FCCLA STAR Event, Illustrated Talk rubric (some modification may be required).</p>
<p><b>Additional Notes</b></p>	<p>Inviting parents, administration or advisory community to presentation days allows students to gain the confidence of presenting to an audience.</p>
<p><b>Source</b> (If Applicable then required to cite any published or copyrighted materials used in this lesson plan)</p>	<p><a href="#">FCCLA STAR Events Manual-Updated 2009</a></p>