

# *Youth + Family History Stories = Magic:* SHARING FAMILY STORIES CREATES CONFIDENCE IN YOUTH

Presenter: Rachel J. Trotter

## WHEN YOUTH KNOW THEIR FAMILY STORIES THEY ARE RESILIENT.



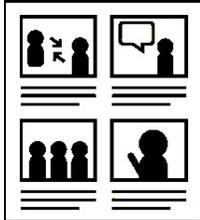
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study shows - kids who know family stories are happy and confident.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bruce Feiler, NY Times Best Selling Author backs this up.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Examine your own family – is this true?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't just talk about the hard stuff, right it down.

## SHARE YOUR BELIEFS THROUGH FAMILY STORIES.



<input type="checkbox"/>	When we share our beliefs through story it's much less preachy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	It helps youth know what their ancestors beliefs were.
<input type="checkbox"/>	It helps youth know what your beliefs are.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask them questions about it.

## TALK! FIND YOUR FAMILY'S SECRET SAUCE AND USE IT.



<input type="checkbox"/>	Find times to talk: The dinner table, the car, late night chats.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember through photos.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember through games.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Give youth opportunities to write their thoughts and stories down.

## IT IS MAGIC WHEN GENERATIONS WORK TOGETHER.



<input type="checkbox"/>	The generations can teach other.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create opportunities for youth to talk to older generations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Let youth do the interviewing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Let youth teach adults how to use technology for great outcomes.

## CREATE STORIES WITH:



<input type="checkbox"/>	Family vacations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family recipes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family reunions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traditions.

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**Resources for Youth Storytelling**

The Power of Remembering, teach children to remember who they are:

- <http://evalogue.life/remember-who-you-are/>

The Power of Remembering Ancestors:

- <http://evalogue.life/the-power-of-remembering/>

Children, technology and family stories = Magic!

- <http://evalogue.life/children-technology-family-stories-magic/>

Is Family History and Storytelling for Kids? Yes!

- <http://evalogue.life/is-family-storytelling-and-family-history-for-kids-yes/>

Getting it Right: What Bruce Feiler Taught me about Parenting:

- <http://evalogue.life/feiler>

Let us Help you Tell your Story!

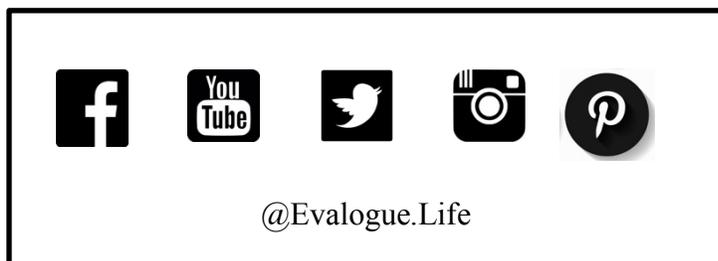
- <http://evalogue.life/services-2/life-story-services/>

We would love to connect with you!

[www.Evalogue.Life](http://www.Evalogue.Life) - Tell Your Story

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# YOUTH + FAMILY HISTORY = MAGIC

## CREATIVE AND FUN WAYS TO SHARE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

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Session: PH5439



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*“Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children.” ~ Charles R. Swindoll*

### **Tips for Getting Started:**

- Think outside the box – ask yourself, “How can I make this interesting?”
- Switch displays around, rotate with seasons – always the unexpected
- Use the negative space in your home – closets, garage, porch, cupboards, etc.
- Label displays on back with story information – *it is not an heirloom without a story!*
- When family asks questions, leave them wanting more – don’t overshare
- Set the stage and build excitement and anticipation
- Remember the priority is to make it fun and memorable
- Make it interactive as possible – let them touch, taste, or do something

### **SEED YOUR HOME WITH STORY PROMPTS:**

- Family trees
- Wall décor, shadow boxes
- Jewelry
- Clothing (Scottish tartan, old shoes, vintage gloves, etc. make great displays)
- Family food, recipes, vintage kitchen tools
- Family music (instruments, sheet music)
- Poetry and original writings
- Arts and crafts of ancestors
- Family history books, Books of Remembrance
- Family traditions and holidays
- Family letters, memorabilia, documents
- Scrapbooks and photos

**“Those of you who have worked at your genealogies, who realize the importance of the work and have felt the excitement that comes from tying families together and learning of your noble heritage, need to share that excitement with others.” ~ Ezra Taft Benson**

**17 Ideas to Try:**

1. Make the most of children's curiosity with mystery, wonder and sense of belonging
2. Create your own heirlooms and displays
3. Make your own Family Discovery Center
4. Search eBay.com, Etsy.com or Amazon.com for items of family history
5. Find new uses for "old" things
6. Display copies of birth & wedding certificates wrapped in ribbon in cloche
7. Maps and globes to display heritage
8. Create family history activities and events that requires participation
9. Leave hidden family history messages and in your home
10. Celebrate ancestor's birthdays
11. Family History games – make your own!
12. Make a family history coloring book
13. Learn storytelling techniques and skills, learn from professional storytellers
14. Learn an ancestor's hobby, or play an instrument that they did
15. Research family history together
16. Create a strong family memory through: *anticipation, participation, recollection*
17. Use texts, or other social media to share in fun and unexpected ways

**“Memories are special moments that tell our story.”**

**Resources:**

**[Pinterest.com/ValerieElkins](#)** - Hundreds of ideas to get you started - many with DIY instructions on several boards and hundreds of “pins” devoted to creating family history displays, making your own family history heirlooms, how to preserve family history items and to think outside the box in sharing your family history.

Hovorka, Janet. *Zap the Grandma Gap; Connect with Your Family by Connecting Them to Their Family History*. (Pleasant Grove UT: Family ChartMasters, 2013)

**FamilyCherished.com**: Creative and fun ways to cherish your family history, home and family are constantly being added to the site and is a great resource. Subscribe to their newsletter for new ideas!

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#### Course Description

Genealogy for Children was designed to help organizations plan and implement successful Family History Events.

There is a wealth of information not only in libraries and genealogical organizations, but in the hearts and minds of older members of our society. It is my goal to begin those important conversations among family members that would encourage them to find out more on their own.

As a teacher, presenter, and family genealogist, I have learned the importance of continuing this work with our children, and to pass our knowledge to the next generation. In 2015 and 2016, I worked with the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Department to prepare successful Family Events. I look forward to working with you as well.

#### Course Learning Goals

Genealogy for Children was designed to help organizations plan and implement successful Family History Events.

#### Program Context

There is a wealth of information not only in libraries and genealogical organizations, but in the hearts and minds of older members of our society. It is my goal to begin those important conversations among family members that would encourage them to find out more on their own.

As a teacher, presenter, and family genealogist, I have learned the importance of continuing this work with our children, and to pass our knowledge to the next generation through implementing family history events.

#### Course Outcomes

In order to provide the tools and the structure needed to develop such an event, the following will be presented:

- How to get Children Involved
- Setting up a Family Event
- Importance of Oral History
- Passing the Gauntlet

Handouts: <https://wp.me/paeeT5-3R>