

☀ Art Activity 1: Heritage Museum



“History is NOT just about presidents and wars, but also about individuals. About their experiences, their challenges and struggles, and their stories. For the next three weeks, our class is going to be learning about history from a special perspective. By way of introducing our unit on immigration in the twentieth century, we’re going to be creating a classroom museum based upon our collective experiences. We’ll call it the Heritage Museum, and it will remain on display for the rest of the grading period.”

~Letters from the Heart p. 7-8

Every family has their own journey that has brought them to where they are today. Why do your parents live where they do? What about your grandparents and great grandparents? Do a little research at home. Find old photographs or family souvenirs from the past. Map out a family tree and share the results with your group. Whether or not your family has always lived in America or immigrated, whether or not you were adopted, every family has its own special structure and story. Learn about the history of your family.

Supplies

- Poster Board
- Glue or Rubber Cement
- Scissors
- Old Family Photos and Souvenirs (that you have permission to use)

Directions

- Map out your family tree on a scrap piece of paper. You are the base, and your siblings are on the same level as you. The two people stemming from your generation are your parents, and their siblings fall on the same level. Then your grandparents stem from them and so on. See how many relatives you can map on your family tree.
- Sketch a tree (or whatever creative structure you want) to put your family on, and draw the appropriate branches.
- Glue on photos or drawings for each person and write their names beneath their pictures.
- Add on little stories or facts in the background to enrich your unique family history!