



Family* Story Collection, *DNA Expedition*

** You decide what family means to you and who is included in that definition.*

Goals:

- To reflect on important stories in our lives
- To build narrative writing skills
- To create a collection of stories we are proud of and want to share

Guiding Question:

- What can I learn about myself and my family by exploring our stories?

Components (Pieces of the Project):

A collection that includes:

- At least 10 short pieces (each piece 1 - 3 pages)
- Table of Contents
- Author Reflection (we'll talk more about this in class)
- An attractive cover
 - Includes art of some kind (drawing, painting, collage, photographs, etc.)
- Bound in some way (we'll talk about options for this in class)
- Typed or neatly handwritten
- One of the chapters (short pieces) shared aloud in class at our celebration.

Possible ideas for your short pieces:

- Stories your family tells all the time
- Stories your family rarely tells
- Stories your family tells about you
- Stories you like to tell about your family
- Family stories that change depending on who tells them
- Inspiring family stories, funny stories, sad stories, intense stories, etc.
- Family stories told with comics, pictures, or drawings -- graphic novel style
- Short essay about what family means to you
- Short essay about how your family sees you and how you see yourself
- Letter(s) to a family member, important friend, or ancestor
- Interviews
- Poems

Timeline and Deadlines:

Two rough drafts turned in on each of the following dates (10 rough drafts total):

All of these dates are Fridays: **Nov 2, Nov 9, Nov 16, Nov 30, Dec 7**

Final, polished collection due: Weds, Dec 19 or Fri, Dec 21
Celebration and sharing on Friday, December 21

This collection will be assessed for the learning target: *I can write narrative texts.*

We will be working together to meet the criteria on the list below:

Narrative Structure

- The collection overall gives your reader powerful ideas to think about.
- Each piece in the collection has a lead (opening, beginning) that hooks the reader.
- Transitions within each piece are smooth and effective.
- Each piece has a satisfying ending that pulls the story together.

Narrative Development

Elaboration

- Main ideas stand out and are supported by a variety of specific details.

Craft

- The voice fits the topic, purpose, and audience.
- The writing is expressive, engaging, and sincere.
- Word choice is precise, engaging, natural, and well suited to the topic, format, and audience.

Conventions

- Effective proofreading has been done to polish spelling and grammar.
- Sentence structures are used in an effective and powerful way.