

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to recognize personal connections to history and understand how historical events have influenced your life.

Materials and Prep

- Pen and paper
- Access to a computer or library for research (optional)

No prior knowledge is required for this lesson. Just come with an open mind and a willingness to explore history!

Activities

- **Interview a Family Member:** Choose a family member, such as a grandparent or an older relative, and interview them about their experiences during a significant historical event. Take notes on their stories and ask follow-up questions to gain a deeper understanding.
- **Timeline of Personal History:** Create a timeline of your own personal history, starting from your birth and including important milestones and events in your life. Reflect on how these events have shaped who you are today.
- **Research Historical Influences:** Select a topic or event from history that interests you and research how it has influenced your life today. For example, if you are interested in space exploration, explore how the Apollo moon landing impacted space travel and technology.
- **Write a Historical Journal Entry:** Imagine yourself living during a significant historical period. Write a journal entry from the perspective of someone who experienced that time. Include personal thoughts, emotions, and observations.

Talking Points

- "History is not just about dates and facts, but also about the people who lived through those events. By exploring personal connections to history, we can gain a deeper understanding of how historical events have shaped our lives."
- "Interviewing a family member can provide valuable insights into history. Ask questions like 'What was life like during that time?' or 'How did that event impact you personally?'"
- "Creating a timeline of your personal history helps you see how your own life is connected to the broader historical timeline. It allows you to reflect on how events have influenced your growth and development."
- "Researching historical influences can be fascinating. Choose a topic that interests you and explore how it has affected society, technology, or culture today. You might be surprised by the connections you discover."
- "Writing a journal entry from the perspective of someone who lived during a historical period helps you empathize with the experiences of people from the past. It allows you to imagine what life was like and how they might have felt."