YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

ABOUT

Objective

Youth and children will become engaged in family history through a variety of activities that will provide opportunities for them to turn their hearts to their ancestors.

Audience

Youth and children

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Primary Activity Days: Invite Primary leaders to hold an Activity Days activity in the center. You could help the children fulfill the following items from the "Learning and Living the Gospel" section of the *Faith in God* booklet:

- Prepare a pedigree chart with your name and your parents' and grandparents' names. Prepare a family group record for your family and share a family story. Discuss how performing temple work blesses families.
- Plan and complete your own activity that will help you learn and live the gospel. (For example, they could learn about their cultural heritage or preserve family photos or stories.)

Encourage the children to share this experience with their families. You may also want to invite parents to come with their children to the family history center. Help 11-year-olds find a family name to take to the temple and prepare for their first temple experience.

Young Women Personal Progress: Invite the young women and their leaders to come to the center and work on one of the projects or experiences below, which are from the *Personal Progress* booklet:

- Faith value project suggestion: Take a family history class in your ward or branch. Collect existing stories of your relatives or others who have demonstrated faith, or interview family members or others and record their stories. (The young women can then add these stories to Family Tree and share their tree with their family.)
- Individual worth additional value experience: When you participate in family history, you come to understand your identity and individual worth. Visit with your living relatives to learn as much information about your family history as possible. Then complete a pedigree chart of your family and list the temple ordinances that have been completed for each person. (Help youth to find ancestors in need of temple work and to take those names to the temple. Encourage them to attend the temple as a family if possible, and invite them to share this experience with their family.)

- Individual worth value project suggestion: Compile your personal or family history using journal entries, pictures, and important papers.
- Good works value project suggestion: Work with a family member to gather the names of some deceased relatives who were not members of the Church. Identify their birth and death dates and prepare their names to be taken to the temple. Help plan a temple trip and do baptisms for those relatives. (Invite the young women to teach their family member how to find and submit ancestors' names to the temple.)
- Integrity value project suggestion: Record examples of ways family members have demonstrated the quality of integrity in their lives.

Young Men Duty to God: Invite the young men and their leaders to come to the center to work on a portion of their Duty to God program requirements using the following ideas:

- Help the young men prepare doctrinal outlines on temples, eternal families, or family history. Every two years, the young men must prepare an outline about a doctrinal topic. After preparing the outlines, they should teach them to someone else, such as their quorum or their family.
- Help the young men plan family history service projects that they could complete as part of their plan to serve requirement, which they must complete every two years. These could include capturing headstone images with the BillionGraves app, indexing, taking names to the temple, or helping other members of the ward use family history technology as they find their own family names. Encourage them to attend the temple with their families and to share this experience with other family members.

Youth Indexing: Depending on the number of computers you have, invite a class or multiple classes of youth from a ward to participate in an indexing activity. Make sure there are enough family history consultants available to assist the youth as they learn how to index.

Youth Nights: Hold a youth night at least once a month, and focus on helping the youth learn family history through classes or one-on-one assistance. Preferably, have youth family history consultants available to assist on these nights. Give the youth ideas about how they can share their experiences with family members.

Genealogy Merit Badge: Conduct a class for the genealogy merit badge. Ask the Scouts to complete a recorded interview with a relative, a pedigree, and two family group records before attending. The rest of the merit badge could be completed in less than two hours.

Resources

Primary Activity Days

- For the first Learning and Living the Gospel activity, complete pedigree charts and family group records.
- For other activities you have selected, prepare the needed materials.

Youth.lds.org

- lds.org/youth/activities/category/temple-and-family-history?lang=eng
- Purpose and description of youth activities focused on family history.

Young Women Personal Progress

- If they are completing the individual worth value experience, complete pedigree charts for each young woman.
- Access to FamilySearch.org.

Young Men Duty to God

- For the doctrinal outlines, prepare materials that will help the young men study the topic on their own.

Youth Indexing

- Family history consultants can help youth who need assistance.

Youth Night

- Youth family history consultants can help at youth night activities.

Scouting Merit Badge

- Complete a pedigree and two family group sheets for each person.
- Access to FamilySearch.org.
- Helpers who are certified merit badge counselors can assist with the activity (coordinate with your local Boy Scout Council office).
- See the following article in the FamilySearch Research Wiki: familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Boy_Scout_Merit_Badge_in_Genealogy

Family Home Evening

- Family history family home evening ideas can be found at lds.org/topics/family-history/family-home-evening?lang=eng.
- Sugar Doodle family history activity kit can be found at sugardoodle.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111508.