

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF YOUR ANCESTOR**ABOUT****Objective**

Families will use online tools such as Google Earth, RootsMapper, and Historical Map Works to explore places where their ancestors lived and follow their ancestors' migration routes.

Audience

Families (children, youth and adults)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

Invite youth, adults, and families to come to the center by exploring places and streets where their ancestors once lived, or following their migration routes.

Accommodate two to three individuals per computer to ensure a better experience. Encourage them to generate discussions related to the places they're looking for and the details they discover as they explore. Help them think about their ancestors as they identify places where their family could have been in past times, and establish a connection with these places and their ancestors.

Here are ways families can use the tools:

- **Google Earth:** Explore places where ancestors lived. View places down to the street level to explore the neighborhoods their ancestors knew.
- **RootsMapper:** View the migration patterns of generations of ancestors, see their route displayed on a world map, and view their places of origin and settlement. Zoom in to see more detail about the places, and to see Family Tree information about specific ancestors.
- **Historic Map Works:** See the world your ancestors knew. View maps and atlases from many locations around the world. Search for cities and addresses or GPS coordinates on maps.

For an additional activity, members can create posters to display details about their ancestor's home or migration. These posters can be shared at a ward or branch gathering, displayed in the family history center, or shared with family members.

Resources

- Internet access to Google Earth
- Internet access to RootsMapper—found at <http://www.FamilySearch.org/apps>
- Internet access to Historic Map Works—found on the Family History Premium Websites
- Printer connected to the computer
- Poster board and paper and writing instruments