

NONE, SOME, MANY

Activity

FIND

TAKE

TEACH



SCANNING FAMILY PHOTOS AND ADDING THEM TO FAMILY TREE

The purpose of this activity is to preserve class members' personal and family history by learning to scan family photos and share them with other family members using FamilySearch.

This activity will help class members feel the Spirit and strengthen their love for their families as they share and preserve family photos.

TIME:

35–45 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED

- A device for creating a digital copy of a photo (scanner, smartphone, hand-held scanner)
- Smartphones, tablets, or computers
- Photos of one or more of your ancestors

Optional Materials:

- A computer and projector that you can use to show a video or display your screen to the class for a demonstration, if the bandwidth in your building permits (Please see the Technical Guide for family discovery day organizers for tips on improving the Internet connectivity.)
- A well-lit table without shadows to allow photos of records or images to be taken
- Photos brought in by class members
- The FamilySearch memories app

PREPARE

- 1. Review the activity instructions.
- 2. Gather all materials needed for the class.
- 3. Find photos of your ancestors.
- 4. Scan at least one photo, and add it to FamilySearch.org.
- Optional.* Ask class members in advance to bring photos of their ancestors that they want to scan and add to FamilySearch.org. Explain that class members will keep the originals.
- Optional.* Ask class members in advance to bring a USB or flash drive. This will allow them to save the scanned images and upload them to FamilySearch at a later time.

CONDUCT THE ACTIVITY

We encourage you to modify this activity as needed and to use your own ideas and creativity as you accommodate to the needs and the interests of the people in your area.

Step 1: Plan in Advance

Before your family discovery day, ask all who are attending the event to find a family picture and bring it to the activity. You may also want to ask them to download the FamilySearch memories app to their phones or mobile devices.

Step 2: Introduce the Activity

Show a photo of one of your ancestors to the class. Ask the class how many people they think would be able to see the original photo. Answers may include immediate family or those who visit your home. Ask the class how many people might be able to see the photo if it were posted to FamilySearch.org. Many more people would have access to that photo who might not otherwise have an opportunity to see it.

Explain that scanning photos and adding them to FamilySearch can help you share and preserve your family photos. If available, display the photo you uploaded to FamilySearch, and show other photos that have been posted. Explain that many of the photos in FamilySearch have been added by other people, including distant family members you may have never met. (If you are the only person in your family to have added photos, explain that as more and more family members add photos, you will be able to see family photos you've never seen.)

Step 3: Separate into Stations

Have class members and families rotate through three different stations as time permits. These stations should help alleviate crowds or bottlenecks around the scanners.

#1–Photo Scanning

At this station demonstrate how to scan photos or how to take a picture of a photo on your mobile device. Help the first person save and upload his or her picture to FamilySearch.org. Have him or her teach the next person how to do what he or she just learned

to do. Stay nearby to help those who are teaching to properly preserve the photo.

You may want to watch the video “How to Add Photos to Your Family Tree” on LDS.org in preparation for this activity.

#2–Storytelling

At this station families and class members can share stories with each other about the ancestors who are in the photographs that they brought to be scanned.

#3–Photo Booth

This station can be set up for families to have a picture taken of them at family discovery day. They can upload this photograph to their tree and write about their experience.

Low Bandwidth Options

- For areas where internet connection is slow, you might consider having one computer with a helper where pictures can be scanned and entered into FamilySearch.
- You might consider having a class-size limit or a sign-up sheet for class members to participate in this class to avoid bottlenecks and bandwidth issues.

Step 4: Discuss the Importance of Preserving Photographs

Ask those who participated how they feel about having the photos preserved and shared. Reinforce the importance of preserving our own pictures as well as those of our ancestors.

Step 5: Invite

Invite class members to add more photos to FamilySearch and then to teach others to do the same.

Invite class members to try preserving a memory and discovering a memory.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS FOR CONDUCTING THE ACTIVITY

The following are optional ideas for this activity.

Idea 1: Showcase images of different family members on a specific day (baptism, graduation, wedding, or similar events). Invite family members to record and then share their feelings and experiences from that day. Look for comparisons between family members and share how this event is special to you. If appropriate, invite family members to compile their stories and preserve them on FamilySearch.org.

Idea 2: Encourage the class to share images and other information learned about their ancestors on social media using the hashtag [#FamilyDiscoveryDay](#) (or another applicable hashtag). Encourage them to tag friends and family that might find this information interesting or who would benefit from participating in family history work.

Idea 3: Create a page or place where a copied picture (not the original picture) of each class member can be put on display for others to view. You might have each class member write a brief caption about their family photographs.



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS