

December Genealogy Tip

Genealogy can bring family closer together at the holidays in so many ways. This is one time of the year that many people have their whole family under one roof. So, let's put down the electronics, grab the kids (teens, too!), and let's learn about family!

Stories

Talk about past holiday gatherings. Ask older family members what their celebrations were like. Discuss how they are different from today. Any traditions that still take place? Encourage kids to ask questions or talk about the things they like about the holidays. Take the opportunity to make a video or have a designated family member record notes on paper.

Decorating

Decorate for the holidays with pictures of ancestors and living relatives. Cheap frames can be purchased from your local dollar store. Add a photo and voila! Makes a great conversation starter and keepsake.



Gifts

If you've got the funds, DNA kits make wonderful gifts. If not, print out a simple family tree graphic for each family member. As a group, fill out the family tree. You'll not only spark conversations, but maybe memories that can be shared with all the family.

Pictures

Do you have a box of old photos? Maybe some that you don't know who's in them? Here's a great opportunity! Set the box out with some pens and sticky notes. Let family rummage through and see if anyone can break down your roadblock. Promise family that you'll give them a copy if they can tell you who's in the picture.

Happy Holidays from the Genealogy Committee!