



# SETTING AND ACHIEVING YOUR GENEALOGY GOALS



# STEP ONE

Think about what you want to learn about your family.





# STEP TWO


Set one final  
destination goal –  
your “research quest”.





# EXAMPLE

Have an in-depth genealogy of five generations and make a book from this to give to my relatives.





## STEP THREE


Set two to three shorter termed goals. The shorter goals will be stepping stones to the longer goal.





# EXAMPLE

Have names, dates of birth, and dates of death for all my ancestors born in the US.



**The key to setting goals is to make them smart, so you have the best chance of achieving them.**

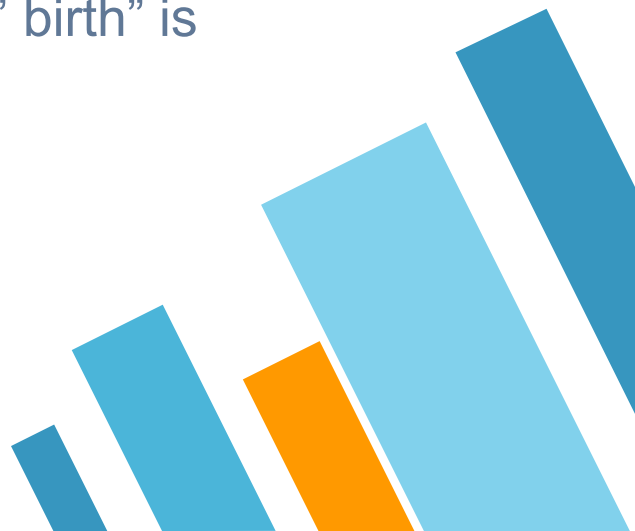




## BE SPECIFIC

“I want to do my family’s genealogy” is not specific.

“I want to research great-grandpa Thomas’ birth” is specific.








# BE MEASURABLE

Give yourself steps to help you measure progress toward your goal.


“I will research one ancestor per month” is measurable.





# MAKE IT YOURS


This will be your goal, and not somebody else's goal.





# BE REALISTIC

Set a goal that is challenging but within your grasp.





# HAVE A TIME LIMIT

Setting a time limit on a goal creates motivation to achieve it.






# WRITE IT DOWN



Writing your goal(s) down can create accountability to yourself.

You can keep it personal, or post in a prominent place as encouragement.





# STEP FOUR

Make sure to update your shorter goals. When you achieve a short term goal, move on to another, or set new short goals.






# STEP FIVE

Keep up your encouragement  
by being flexible.





**Despite bumps in the road and “brick walls”, as long as you remain focused on your “research quest” and are taking the small steps to achieve it, you’re on the right road.**





## OTHER IDEAS

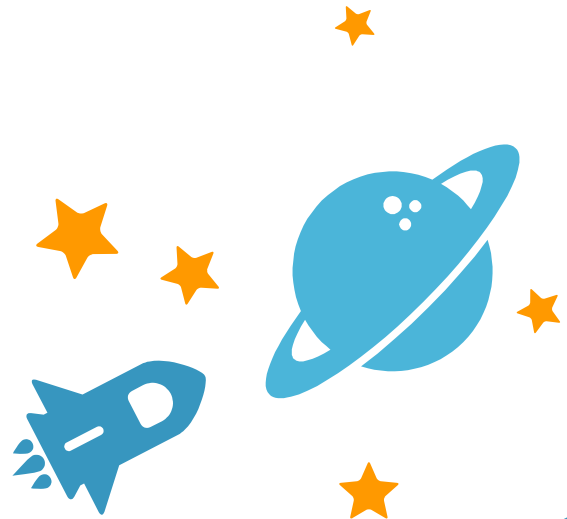
I want to visit my immigrant ancestor's home town in the old country.

I want to put up an Internet genealogy web site for my own family.

I want to interview all my living relatives older than me.



**Most of all ...  
enjoy the  
quest.**



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