

Lesson Plan 4 - *Tracing Ancestors*

1. Distribute Student Handout 4.
2. Read the overview while students follow with their copies.
3. Present the objective

Students will know that they are a part of the documentary past through an introduction to genealogy using the the McFaddin and French family trees as examples.

Students will be introduced to basic genealogy research discovering the use of libraries, Internet, and other sources in developing genealogical charts (family trees) and similar information.
5. Distribute Student Handouts 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4h, and 4i.
 - A. Review Mamie McFaddin Ward's family tree.
 - B. Review Avie French's family tree.
 - C. Using an overhead projector, show a blank genealogical chart (Transparency 4c) filling in your name (teacher's) and family information or a fictitious name and family. This begins a discussion of how students may fill in their charts (Student Handout 4c).
 1. Note: Students should use a pencil first.
 2. If a student is not aware of his or her family background, he or she may:
 - a. Interview a classmate on his or her ancestors
 - b. Write an essay on what they do know about their past, including information about where to look to find more information. Examples: Write a paper about everything he or she knows about his/her birth (date, weight, location, doctor, hair/eye, race, etc.); Make a chart beginning with you — foster parents, foster siblings; etc.
 - c. Discuss ways that he or she may be able to find out about unknown pasts: Groups (ethnic) histories, oral interviews, church and municipal records, school and birth records; discuss how records are kept at school
 3. Encourage students to get family members involved in discussion of family history, including assisting with the genealogical chart.
6. Instruct on sources available to fill out the genealogical chart such as family Bibles; birth records (birth certificates, certificates of adoption, etc.); oral interviews (ask a relative); newspapers (list births, deaths, marriages), church records; family documents (letters, diaries, scrapbooks), census records; etc.
 - A. Read Student Handout 4d aloud with students following on their copy.