

## Honoring Our Ancestors

What does it mean to honor someone?

What is an ancestor?

Suggested questions for students and families:

Why is the full name of the ancestor that you would like to honor?

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How is this ancestor related to you?

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Did you know this ancestor or who is telling you about them?

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Where and when did this ancestor grow up?

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Did this ancestor have any adventures or challenges in his/her life?

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What important world events occurred during his/her life?

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Did this ancestor have any special talents or occupation?

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Do you have anything that belonged to this ancestor?

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Why did you choose this ancestor to honor?

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Notes from Sharon Santillo, Family Stories through Art workshop leader

To students: Be curious and ask more questions as you think of them to find out more about your ancestors. Details will make our Honoring Our Ancestors book even more interesting. Feel free to use more paper to write down what you find out.

To parents: The stories and art we create together will be shared with families online in a pdf class book. I urge all families to keep asking questions and collecting family stories. Research is showing the importance.

Links for further reading:

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2017/jan/14/children-family-histories-ales>

<https://www.cnn.com/2015/06/03/living/telling-kids-family-history-benefits-feat/index.html>

<http://shared.web.emory.edu/emory/news/releases/2010/03/children-benefit-if-they-know-about-their-relatives-study-finds.html#>.

To teachers:

Suggestion: Students pair-share and read their ancestor stories to each other with these questions in mind.

Does the opening sentence make you want to read more? By the last sentence, do you have an idea why the writer is honoring this ancestor? Do the art and writing complement each other? Revise art as well as writing as needed.

