

FAMILY TRADITIONS

Families are excellent storehouses of tradition, and are the first folk groups we are introduced to. Beliefs, objects, photographs, and stories are ideally passed down from one generation to the next. These traditions help to shape family identity and pride. It is important that we hold on to such treasures. Can you think of any traditions specific to your family? Explore the sections below to come up with ideas, and discuss them amongst fellow classmates.

Family Photographs

Photographs represent personal, family, and community history. We often take family photographs for granted, not realizing the wealth of information they provide. Thumb through your family photos, and think about the stories they tell, what family customs are represented, what time periods do they span, who is photographed and why.



Family Fun Family Folklore!

What's in a Name?

Family stories are also part of family traditions. These stories can be short or long, funny or serious, and vary depending on who is telling them. Ask a grandparent or other grown-up to share a family story with you, then tell that story to someone else. Keep the story alive!

Names can communicate a lot about people, and often have stories attached to them. Every cultural group has its own naming traditions. Some people are named in honor of deceased relatives to keep their memory alive. Others are given creative names to make them stand apart. Do you know the story behind your first name? What about your family name?

Family Treasures

Family treasures are objects which have special meaning to those who own them. There are often stories and fond memories associated with these objects. Examples of family treasures include: quilts, recipes, jewelry, teapots, baskets, clothing, and so much more! Does your family have any treasures?



Learn more about
Family Folklore at:
www.louisianavoices.org