“The History of My Name” Family Interview Research

Interview a parent or other family member to learn about how you got your name. Use what you learn from your interview to answer the questions on this page. Try to answer as many of the questions below as possible. Write your answers in complete sentences.

Who picked out your name?

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How did they decide on your name? Is there a story behind your name?

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Does your name have any personal or cultural meaning to your family?

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What would you have been named if you had been born a boy/girl (opposite of what you are)?

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Note to families: To provide a personal context for learning about history, we are beginning our first “historical research” at the closest personal level – history as it pertains to our own lives. By researching the history of their names, the students are laying the groundwork to understand historical concepts in increasingly broader contexts over time.

Your child is going to interview you about the story behind his/her name. Please elaborate as much as possible, so that your child will be able to write a detailed report about his/her name. Thank you!