

make a mistake} because the information about her name came from Sara herself. Your dad's memory is a pretty reliable source. The least reliable source would be the Portland history. That is because it is not a firsthand source, and you are not sure where the author got the information.

About when were Ebenezer and Sara born? You can estimate their years of birth because you know how old they were at the time of the 1930 census. If you subtract Ebenezer's age, 35, from 1930, you get 1895. If you subtract Sara's age, 37, from 1930, you get 1893. Ebenezer would have been born around 1895, and Sara would have been born around 1893. Remember, however, that these are only estimates. You still do not have their exact birth dates.

Can you trust your father's memory? He was right about some of the facts he gave you. However, he did not know Sara's middle name, and he was off four days on his father's birthday. Also, you have not uncovered anything so far that proved your great-grandpa was famous. Family stories are always a good place to start, but they are not always completely correct. They usually have some truth in them, but they can get changed or exaggerated over the years, so it is always a good idea to dig a little deeper.

When evaluating information, use the facts and data you already have and compare them with the new evidence. Then decide whether they fit together well with the rest of your information. Do this continually as you look at more sources of information to be sure the genealogical information you gather is accurate.

Spelling

When evaluating records, do not write off a record simply because the surname you are researching is not spelled the way you are used to seeing it spelled. Surnames have not always been spelled consistently. In earlier times, not everyone had the privilege of learning to read and write. The person writing down the name spelled it the way it sounded. In addition, many countries do not use the Roman alphabet we use in the United States. Russian, Indian, Chinese, Korean, and many other names must be transliterated into the Roman alphabet. Often a name can be transliterated in several different ways, which means the spelling of the name will not always be the same. The table provided shows some different spellings for a selection of names.

Sumame	Different spellings
Borukhin	Brukhin, Bryukhin, Brokhin
Bouverie	Boverie, Bovary, Bouvry
Gines	Gynes, Gimes, Joines, Jeynes
Hofmeister	Hovemester, Havemeister, Hommester
Kapoor	Kapur
Mendes	Menendez, Menendes, Méndez, Méndes
Nichols	Nickles, Nickel, Nicole
Siebert	Segebrecht, Zieprecht, Sibbert
Walters	Walter, Waters, Walters
Zhao	Chao, Chew, Chieu, Chu

Nicknames are another thing to check. You might have trouble finding an ancestor because you know only the person's nickname and not the full name, or vice versa. The table here shows some first names and the nicknames for them. Would you have guessed some of them? Your ancestor's name might also be abbreviated to the initials of his or her first and middle name.

Names of places are often spelled in different ways, too. The key to finding your ancestors is to have an open mind!

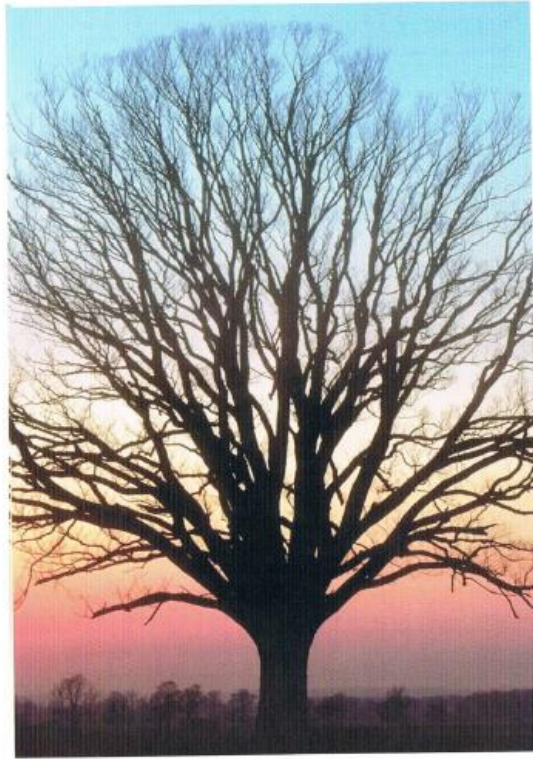
First name	Nickname
Ann or Agnes	Nancy
Aaron	Ron
Bridget	Delia
Eduardo	Lalo
Ivan	Vanya
John	Jack
José	Pepe
Margaret	Peggy
Mary or Martha	Polly

Keeping Track of Information

You should keep track of where you find your information so that other people will be able to find it if they need to. Plus, documenting your sources shows other people that they can trust your work.

There are two ways to keep track of your steps. One way is to write down your sources on your family group record or some other place that makes sense to you. Another possibility is to keep a *research log*.

There is no wrong or right way to document your sources. The important part is to write them down somewhere so that you or someone else can find the information again.



Recording and Organizing Information

The Pedigree Chart

To begin, you need a blank *pedigree chart* form to organize the information you gather about your ancestors. When making a pedigree chart, you start with yourself and then include information about your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on, for the *direct line* of your family. You are a *descendant* of all the people listed on your pedigree chart. You probably will not have all the information at first, so just write in what you do know and leave the other spaces blank.



Pedigree chart

1. Me When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	2. My Father When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	4. His Father When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	5. His Mother When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:
My Spouse	3. My Mother When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	6. Her Father When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	7. Her Mother When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:

1. Me When Born: Where: Married: Where: Died: Where:	My Spouse
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Step 1—Fill in your information. You are No. 1 on your pedigree chart. Write your complete name, then your birth date with the day first, then the month, and then the year. Always give four digits for the year. Example: 14 May 1994. Then write the place you were born. Write place names from smallest to largest like this: Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States. Chicago is the city, Cook is the county, Illinois is the state, and United States is the country. For foreign countries, use the same idea—that is, listing the places from smallest to largest. There probably will be some information on your pedigree chart that you will not be able to fill in yet, such as your marriage information!

Here are some more examples of how to write place names, going from smallest to largest. Later on you will see why it is important to include so much detail.

Drakemuir, (village)	→	Dairy, (parish)	→	Ayrshire, (county or shire)	→	Scotland (country)
Ghatol, (town)	→	Banswara, (district)	→	Rajasthan, (state)	→	India (country)
Newport, (town)	→	Hants, (county)	→	Nova Scotia, (province)	→	Canada (country)
Acapantzingo, (town)	→	Cuernavaca, (county)	→	Morelos, (state)	→	Mexico (country)

2. My Father

When Born:
Where:
Married:
Where:
Died:
Where:

Step 2—Fill in your father's information in the No. 2 position on the chart. If you do not know some of his information, such as his place of birth or your parents' marriage date, ask!

3. My Mother

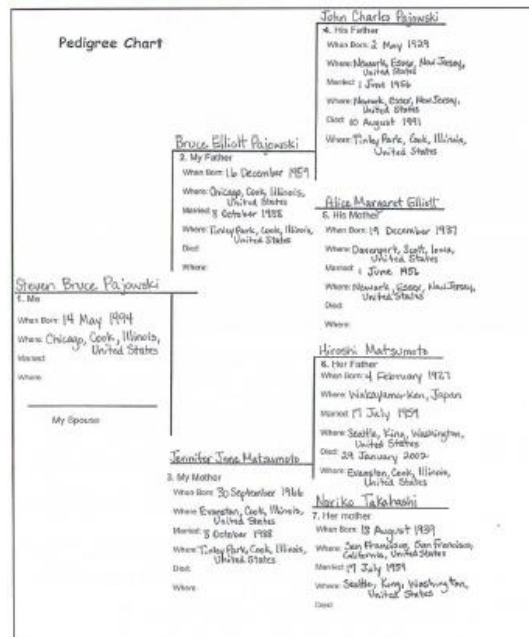
When Born:
Where:
Married:
Where:
Died:
Where:

Step 3—Fill in your mother's information in the No. 3 position on the chart. Use her *maiden name*, which is the *surname* (last name) she had when she was born. In genealogy always use a married woman's maiden name if you know it.

Step 4—Fill in information for other ancestors. Now that you understand how to record information on your pedigree chart, you can find information about the names, dates, and places for your grandparents and, if possible, great-grandparents.

Remember, it is fine to leave a blank space for any information you do not yet have. Some blank spaces for your more distant ancestors may never be filled in because there may be no records or the records may not be available to you.

Some people make their pedigree charts with computers. To do genealogy on a computer, you need genealogy software. See the Developments in Genealogy chapter and the resources section for more information on genealogy software programs.





Adding small photographs to your pedigree chart can make it more interesting. You can buy charts with spaces built in for photos, or you can design your own. Place a photo of each ancestor near his or her space on the chart; do not worry if you don't have a photo of each one.

The Family Group Record Form

Your pedigree chart contains information about your parents, grandparents, and other direct ancestors. But what about other relatives such as brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, and cousins? They, too, are an important part of your genealogy.

The form used to record information about them is called a *family group record* form. One form usually lists information for one family unit, that is, the father (husband), the mother (wife), and all their children (listed in order of birth with the oldest child first).

Slightly different formats are available, but they all show the same basic information. To begin, first get a blank family group record form. You may want to photocopy the one provided here.

Put your father's information here. Put your mother's information here.

Family Group Record Page ____ of ____

Husband's		Other marriages
Name		<input type="checkbox"/> See notes
Born	Place	
Other information		
Died	Place	
Married	Place	
Husband's father		
Name		
Husband's mother		
Name		
Wife's		Other marriages
Name		<input type="checkbox"/> See notes
Born	Place	
Other information		
Died	Place	
Wife's father		
Name		
Wife's mother		
Name		
Children (List them whether living or dead.)		
1	Name	Other marriages
		<input type="checkbox"/> See notes
Female	Born	Place
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other information	
	Died	Place
Male	Spouse's name	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Married	
		Place
2	Name	Other marriages
		<input type="checkbox"/> See notes
Female	Born	Place
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other information	
	Died	Place
Male	Spouse's name	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Married	
		Place

List your brothers and sisters and yourself in the places for children. The oldest should be listed first and the youngest listed last.

Husband's Name		Wife's Maiden name	
Children (List them whether living or dead.)			
3	Name	Other marriages <input type="checkbox"/> See notes	
	Born	Place	
Female	Other information		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Died	Place	
Male	Spouse's name		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Married	Place	
Notes, explanations, and sources of information			
<p>Write down where you found your information. Examples of what you might write include the following.</p> <p><i>"Family information from interview with my mother"</i></p> <p><i>"My grandparents' marriage certificate, in the possession of my Uncle David, 14381 Viewmont Drive, Normal, Illinois"</i></p> <p><i>"A story my grandpa told me"</i></p> <p><i>"An old newspaper clipping from the Medford News, Medford, Oregon, 19 June 1945"</i></p>			
Things to do			
<p>This is a place to list ideas about where to look next for more information. Some examples are:</p> <p><i>"I'm going to write a letter to my great-aunt to ask if she has some more family information."</i></p> <p><i>"I'm going to look for my grandpa's obituary in old newspapers from the town where he died."</i></p> <p><i>"I'm going to look at old census records for my great-grandma and her family to find out what her father did for a living."</i></p>			

All Families Are Special



There are many different types of families. For example, you may live in a home with the father and mother to whom you were born. Or you may live in a home with only one parent, with two parents where

one is a stepparent, or with other relatives. Your family may include half brothers and half sisters or stepbrothers and stepsisters. Each of these persons is an important member of your family.

On your pedigree chart it does not matter if the people you list as your family are biological (bloodline), adopted, step, foster, or other relationships. If you feel they are your family, list them on your forms.

Sometimes, however, there is a need to know the biological ancestry of a person, often for medical purposes. For this reason, it may be a good idea to place a note on the back of your genealogy forms that indicates when a relationship is other than bloodline.

If you have questions about what name should be placed in any position on your pedigree chart and family group record forms, ask your parents and your merit badge counselor. There is no right or wrong way to do it. It is a matter of individual choice.

Obtaining Genealogical Forms

You can get pedigree charts, family group record forms, and other genealogical forms from many suppliers. Where you choose to get them will depend on your own personal preferences.

If you have access to a personal computer with genealogy software that prints pedigree charts and family group record forms, you can print some out. If you have access to the Internet, blank forms can be printed for free from the following websites:

- <http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/anchart.htm>
- <http://www.familysearch.org>
- <http://www.pbs.org/kbyu/ancestors/charts>

You also can get blank charts and forms from a genealogical supply store or a *genealogical society*.

You can obtain pedigree charts in an 8½-by-11-inch letter-size format, a legal-size format, or a large foldout size.



The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, is the world's largest library devoted to genealogy. It is open free to the public.

Developments in Genealogy

Years ago, family historians had to travel to the place where the records they wanted were located. They had to copy down by hand any information they wanted to keep. This meant that people who wanted to do genealogy had to have the time and money to travel.

By the middle of the 20th century, however, microfilm had come into use. Microfilm is film of a paper document, such as a newspaper, photographed at a reduced size. The words and pictures on microfilm can be viewed with a microfilm reader, which magnifies them to their original size or larger.

Microfilm copies of original records from various places can be sent all over the world. People no longer have to travel so far to view a record. The records travel to them! Records may be viewed at a nearby genealogical library. The Internet has made accessing records even more convenient. With Internet access, it is possible to view many records on a personal computer in your home or school.





Microfilm and Microfiche

Micrographics is the branch of photography that captures images of records at a size much smaller than the original for storage and later use. Microfilm and microfiche are the two formats most commonly used in micrographics.

A microfilm camera reduces the size of the original image to a size that can fit on the film. Microfilm cameras may take pictures that range from a few times smaller than the original to many hundreds of times smaller than the original. Here is an image of a Boy Scout and the same image approximately 10 times smaller than the original. You could fit 10 images of the Boy Scout into the space where you originally only had one. You can see why microfilm is a great way to store records—it takes up much less

space than the original records.

Advantages of microfilm include the following:

- There is less wear and tear on the original record.
- Microfilm can be duplicated into multiple copies so that people in many different places can have access to the record. In other words, microfilm makes wide distribution of the record possible.
- Microfilm serves as an archival, or preservation, copy of the record. If something were ever to happen to the original record, the microfilm is a backup.
- Microfilm provides an exact image of the original record, which prevents the possibility of mistakes creeping in when a record is copied by hand.
- Microfilm takes up much less storage space than the original documents.

Microfiche is another format for reduction photography. Microfiche is a clear, flexible card usually measuring approximately 8 inches by 4 inches and is about the same thickness as microfilm. It is possible to fit an entire book, even a large one, on a single microfiche.

Microfilm usually comes in either 16 mm or 35 mm widths.



Digital Imaging

During the late 20th century, micrographics was cutting-edge technology for the preservation and distribution of original records. In the 21st century, however, digital imaging is the tool of choice.

A *digital image* is a picture of something, such as an original census record, that is stored electronically. A digital camera is used to take the picture. The camera converts images into a digital code that can then be read by a computer. The code associated with one image, usually called a file, must be stored somewhere so that it can be seen, or retrieved, later when someone needs it.

Data on the earliest computers were stored on paper cards that had the code punched into them. Next, files were stored on magnetic tape, then on magnetic disks (called floppy disks because the first ones were actually flexible). Today, files are stored on floppy disks, compact discs (CDs), digital versatile discs (DVDs), or the hard drive (disk) of a computer or other device. Digital cameras have their own tiny hard disk on which image files are stored until they can be transferred, or downloaded, to a computer and then saved on to a longer-term storage device, such as a CD.

Anywhere from 600 to 800 black-and-white images can be stored on one CD. About 1,100 to 1,500 black-and-white images can be stored on one DVD.

One advantage of keeping images in a digital format is that it is easy and inexpensive to make copies. Another strength of the digital format is that the quality of each copy is as good as the original. However, if you do not have access to a computer or your computer does not have the software to read the files, digital records are of no use to you. In addition, computer technology changes rapidly, so data must constantly be transferred from outdated storage formats to current ones.

Computers and Indexes

The enormous storage capacities mentioned above and the processing capabilities of modern computers have made possible not only digital imaging but also digital indexing and searching. Suppose you were doing your research 50 years ago. What if you did not find information about your ancestor in the place where he or she lived? You would then have to search in all the places near where your ancestor lived. At the least this would have meant looking through many microfilms. But it also could have meant having to send for, travel to, or hire someone to search the records at another location. Now, many records have been put into databases and indexed so you can enter what you are searching for and let the computer do some of the hunting for you.

The Internet

The Internet increases the number of people who can access a database. Instead of people having to get their own copy of a database, many people can use the same database at once.

When you go to a website for a genealogical record database, all you need to do is type in your search request. Your computer sends your request over the Internet to the server, or mainframe computer where the database is stored. The server then sends the information requested back to your computer.

Remember that you should always ask for your parent's permission before surfing the web.



Genealogical research today

The database located at <http://www.familysearch.org> is an example of a large database that comes from two sources: user contributions and indexes of original records.

Genealogical Databases on the Internet

Once you have decided which ancestor you are going to research, try one or more of the following Internet *databases*:

1. User-contributed (meaning the information is from individual people)
2. Index of an original source
3. Images of an original source (sometimes with an index)

The difference between the three is the source of the information. Remember that before you accept information as fact, you must decide whether it is correct and whether it is about *your* ancestor. Take a moment to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each type of database. Understanding the limitations of a database helps you determine the reliability of the information it offers.

User-contributed databases allow you to take advantage of the genealogy that other people have already traced. You might be able to get in touch with distant relatives who also are working on your genealogy. The drawback is that the person may not have done his or her research very carefully and it may contain mistakes.

Indexes of an original record provide you with an easy-to-search index of records from a documented source. These indexes are based on original records and not someone's opinion. However, the fact that a person had to enter the information into a computer in the first place also means that typos and other mistakes are likely. Often you will have to pay a fee to use these databases.

Images of an original record may or may not be indexed. If they are indexed, they offer one of the easiest ways to access information about an ancestor. You can look for your ancestor and then immediately view the original source to make sure the information is correct. If the images are not indexed on the computer (they may be indexed somewhere else), you can still look at the original record instead of having to find a copy of it. Many times these databases cost money to use.

Before April 1999, the International Genealogical Index was available only at about 4,000 Family History Centers and a few libraries that had copies of it. When it was placed on the Internet, it became available to millions of people. The IGI is just one example of many online genealogical databases.

Other Genealogical Resources on the Internet

In addition to Internet databases, there are many other types of websites that can help you with your family history. For instance, sites devoted to different countries and regions can help you learn about the history, traditions, or customs of a particular place. Many people working on their family histories have put up websites where they post information about the genealogical work they have completed so far. These sites can be quite helpful if you find one that has information about an ancestor you and the other person have in common. There also are websites of archives and libraries that give information about original records. Some of these websites are free, while others require that you pay a fee to use them.

Local family history and historical societies can be excellent sources of valuable genealogical information. Most societies have websites that provide at the least a mailing address where you can write for information. Some have sites that offer complete online indexes of records. Many of these societies have indexes and records that you can purchase if you cannot find the records elsewhere.

Societies focused on tracing certain ethnic groups are very similar to local family history societies. They specialize in finding records about one particular group and therefore can give you help that you might not find anywhere else.

Large archives and libraries almost always have websites. Sometimes they have online indexes. Usually, these websites will give you at least an idea, if not an actual catalog, of the records the archive or library holds. They will also tell you how you can access their records. You may be able to visit and view their records in person, or they may have a search service that will do the search for you for a fee. They might provide information about professional researchers you can hire.

Menu sites, such as <http://www.cyndislist.com>, help you find other websites. They are usually organized by place and then subject. For instance, if you were looking for a local genealogical society that covered Washtenaw County in Michigan you would:

- Go to <http://www.cyndislist.com>.
- Scroll down to the United States Index: States, Regions, and Localities within the States.
- Click on "Localities" for Michigan.
- Click on the first letter of the county, "W," for Washtenaw County.

A list of links to websites about Washtenaw County would appear. Among these websites you would see a link for the Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. You can follow these steps for any state and county in the United States, or for other countries.

Using Search Engines

Search engines typically use keywords. Keywords are words that are unique to what you are searching for. For example, in the following sentence, "I am looking for the grave of my ancestor Rose Goldman." You would likely pick the words *grave* and *Rose Goldman* because the other words are very common and can be used in many other contexts.

If you just typed in *grave* and *Rose Goldman* you would get thousands of hits. You would need to narrow your search. To do this, you might add the name of the place Rose Goldman died or the year of her death to your search terms. Remember, however, that not all the Rose Goldmans you find will be your ancestor. In fact, it is possible that none of the matches you get will be your ancestor.

Remember, too, that computers are not as smart as you are. For instance, suppose you are looking for your ancestor named Marco Angelo Benedetto. You type his name into the search engine, and it does not find him. However, if you were looking at the original record, you would find him as M. A. Benedetto. You would know this is probably him, but the computer was looking for an exact match. This same idea applies to any type of search on a computer, not just a keyword search.

Menu sites are helpful for identifying websites that can assist you in tracing ancestors belonging to a particular ethnic group or nationality. If you were looking for resources related to Jewish genealogy, for example, you could go to <http://www.cyndislist.com> and scroll down the list of places and topics until you get to the heading, "Jewish." Click on the heading and you will find links to many websites for Jewish genealogy. If your particular ancestry is not listed by name then click on the name of the country your family came from. For example, click on the heading, "Italy/Italia" to find information on Italian genealogy.

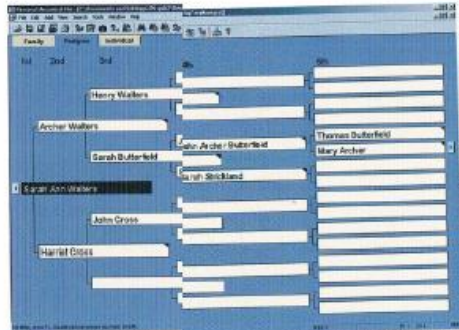
Search engines are a great way to search the internet. Bear in mind, however, that they are much more helpful if you are looking for places or things rather than individual ancestors. For example, if you were looking for the National Genealogical Society's website, you would type *National Genealogical Society* into the search engine. Their site will probably be among the first few hits.

Genealogy Software Programs for the Personal Computer

Personal computers are a great help when organizing your genealogical research. You can type your information into a genealogy software program instead of filling out forms by hand. Then you can print out any charts or forms you might need. The best part is that if you make a mistake, it is easy to correct. Another nice thing about genealogy computer programs is that you can easily make copies of your work for other people.

These programs can do a variety of things. Not only can you enter names, dates, and places, but you can keep track of your information sources. If you have photos of your family, you can scan them and position them next to the information for that person. Some programs allow you to keep research logs as well. Some basic programs are free, while others must be purchased. See the resources section for information about a few of these programs.

Founded in 1903, the National Genealogical Society serves as a center for genealogical activities and interest at the national level. Members of the society are both amateur family history researchers and professional genealogists. The NGS publishes the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, featuring genealogical writing, previously unpublished source materials, and reviews of new books in the field of genealogy. The bimonthly *NGS Newsletter* features information about the society's activities and programs.



Here is a sample screen from a genealogy software program. You can see that it looks much like a pedigree chart.

Children	Birth	Registered	Ordinance
1. Mary Butlerfield	10 Dec 1776		
2. Thomas Butlerfield	16 Mar 1778		
3. Elizabeth Butlerfield	17 Jan 1780		
4. Sarah Butlerfield	27 May 1781		
5. Archer Butlerfield	17 Jan 1783		
6. James Butlerfield	29 Sep 1784		
7. Martha Ann Butlerfield	1 Dec 1786		
8. William Butlerfield	23 Apr 1788		

Software can be used to make a family group record.

Tips for Online Safety

The Internet is a useful and convenient tool. But you should use the Internet only with your parent's permission and knowledge, and when you are online, be careful to guard your privacy and protect yourself from potentially harmful situations.

These tips will help you stay safe. Your parent, counselor, or librarian may talk with you about other rules for Internet safety.

- Follow your family's or school's rules for going online. Respect any limits on how long and how often you are allowed to be online and what sites you can visit.
- Protect your privacy. Never exchange emails or give out personal information such as your phone number, your address, your last name, where you go to school, or where your parents work, without first asking your parent's permission. Get your parent's permission before sending anyone any family photographs.
- Only open emails or files you receive from people you know and trust. If you get something suspicious, trash it just as you would any other junk mail.
- If you receive or discover any information that makes you uncomfortable, do not respond. Immediately tell your parent or another responsible adult.
- Never agree to get together with someone you meet online, unless your parent approves of the meeting and goes with you.
- Keep your Internet password a secret.
- Always get your parent's permission before doing any online shopping.
- Remember that not everything you see or read online is reliable. Along with lots of great information, the Internet has lots of junk. Learn to separate the useful from the worthless. Talk with your counselor or another experienced adult web user about ways to tell the difference.
- Be a good online citizen. Do not do anything that harms others or is against the law.

Glossary

ancestor. A person from whom you are descended, for example, your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

database. A collection of records taken from one or more sources and compiled on a computer.

descendant. Person descended from an ancestor (son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter).

digital image. A picture that was taken by a digital camera and is stored electronically.

direct line. Parents and the parents of parents.

event. A birth, marriage, death, religious ceremony, burial, or something that happens in the life of a family member that is important enough to record.

family group record. A form that has spaces for organizing information about members of a family. The parents are recorded at the top of the form, then their children below them. Events such as births, marriages, and deaths; the dates of the events; and the places where they happened are recorded.

genealogical society. An organization of people with a common interest in the family history either of a particular surname, a religious or ethnic group, or a geographical area. Examples include the Watkins Family Organization, the Catholic Family History Society of England, the French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut, and the Albuquerque Genealogical Society.

genealogy. The study of one's ancestors—parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on back through history.

generation. Each step back in parents is a generation. You and your brothers and sisters are a generation. Your parents are another generation. Your grandparents are another generation, and so on.

head of the household. The person in a house who is responsible for the others in the house. In most cases this is the father of a family, or if he is absent, the mother.

index. A shortcut to using a record. In genealogy, indexes are usually arranged alphabetically by the names of people in the records, but they may also list place names or other things.

maiden name. A married woman's surname before she got married, that is, the surname of a married woman's father.

micrographics. The branch of photography in which documents are photographed, reduced, and transferred to microfilm or microfiche.

oral history. The passing down by word of mouth from one generation to another of stories and events in a family's history.

original records. Records created at or near the time that an event occurred. In genealogy some examples are vital records, religious institution records, and census records.

pedigree chart. A form that shows several generations of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. It is also often called a family tree or ancestor chart.

research log. A place where a researcher records the genealogy research he or she has done. A research log helps avoid unnecessary duplication of research.

source. A person, book, record, document, tombstone, or other place where information was obtained.

statewide index. An index that arranges all the counties of a state into one alphabetical list by surname. A countywide index would do the same thing for a county. A nationwide or national index would do the same thing for an entire country.

sumame. A person's last name or family name.

transcription. A handwritten, printed, or typewritten copy of something. A transcription requires that someone read, interpret, and then rerecord the information in the record. A photocopy, microfilm, or digital image of a record is not a transcription.

vital record. A record recording firsthand information about a birth, marriage, or death.

Genealogy Resources

Scouting Literature

Boy Scout Journal

Visit the Boy Scouts of America's official retail website at <http://www.scoutstuff.org> for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

Books

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Magazines

Family Chronicle

Toll-free telephone: 888-326-2476

Website:

<http://www.familychronicle.com>

Family Tree Magazine

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magazine.com

Archives and Libraries

National Archives and Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road

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Library of Congress

Local History and Genealogy

Reading Room

101 Independence Ave. SE

Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ G42

Washington, DC 20540-4660

Website:

<http://www.loc.gov/tr/genealogy>

Mid-Continent Public Library

Genealogy and Local History Branch

Website:

<http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/genlh>

New Orleans Public Library

Telephone: 504-596-2610

Website: <http://nutrias.org/~nopl/info/louinfo/louinfo.htm>

The Newberry Library

Website: <http://www.newberry.org/genealogy/collections.html>

Genealogical Societies

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 73067

Washington, DC 20056-3067

Website: <http://www.aahgs.org>

The Family History Library and Family History Centers

35 North West Temple St., Room 344

Salt Lake City, UT 84150

Website: <http://www.familysearch.org>

National Genealogical Society

3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300

Arlington, VA 22204-4304

Website: <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Website: <http://www.nehgs.org>

Genealogy Websites

AfriGeneas

Website: <http://www.afriogeneas.com>

Ancestry.com

Website: <http://www.ancestry.com>

Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet

Website: <http://www.cyndislist.com>

FamilySearch

Website: <http://www.familysearch.org>

Genealogy.com

Website: <http://www.genealogy.com>

RootsWeb

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com>

The USGenWeb Project

Website: <http://www.usgenweb.com>

The WorldGenWeb Project

Website: <http://www.worldgenweb.org>

Genealogy Software

Family Tree Maker

Website: <http://www.familytreemaker.com>

Gene 4.3.4

Website: <http://www.ics.uci.edu/~epstein/gene>

Genealogy Pro for Mac OS X

Website: <http://www.macgenealogy.org/genealogy-pro-z>

Family Tree Maker® 2008

Website: <http://www.genealogy.com/softmain.html>

Legacy 6.0 Family Tree

Website: <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com>

Personal Ancestral File

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Website: <http://www.familysearch.org>

Reunion 9

Website: <http://www.leisterpro.com>

Acknowledgments

The Boy Scouts of America is grateful to NaDine Timothy and Evva Benson of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for their expertise and for writing and compiling the text for this revised edition of the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet. Thanks also to Noel Cardon, David Cates, Ralph Erickson, Cheryl Howland, Dale McClellan, David Rencher, Yvonne Sorenson, and Leah Trost, who donated their time and knowledge to help write, review, and edit the original manuscript. The BSA thanks The Church's Family and Church History Department, which was instrumental in the development of this pamphlet.

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