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family values

family values cornerstone book

HERITAGE  MAKERS™

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“You have heard the novels of your own families; you can make those connections that exist between their various episodes, and you can let the coherent wholes that emerge from the stories play forceful, artistic roles in your lives.” - William A. Wilson

Directions:

This Story Map will help guide you as you write and preserve your most precious memories. As you combine stories and photos you'll create a valuable treasure that can be shared for many years to come.

Step 1. Read through the following questions and answer them. You may need to involve others with interviews and gathering information, or just answer the questions on your own. You do not need to answer each question or even use each theme; these are meant merely as guidelines. As you answer the question(s), your answers become the story.

Step 2. Get your photos scanned and uploaded into your Studio account. Your personal publishing consultant can help you get all of your photos scanned quickly and easily with scanning services. Just ask!

Step 3. Start creating. You can design your own page from scratch or use one of the many Heritage Makers' pre-designed templates.

Your book will have 21 pages. Additional pages are available for a minimal printing cost.

Front Cover

Image
Title
Author

Page 1

Family motto, crest, or a brief history of the family name

When people hear your family name, what do they think of? Do you have a family crest? Talk about what the colors, shapes and symbols mean. Do you have a family motto? Talk about how you came up with that motto.

Pages 2-3

Our Family Roots

Talk about where your family came from. On these pages, you could include a brief genealogy with names and dates. Write about notable family strengths or character traits that are a part of your heritage.

Pages 4-5

Who We Are Today

Introduce each member of your family. Include photos of each member. Include nicknames, talents, hobbies, interests, etc.

“We are the Smith family. We each have our own personalities which come together to make one family unit. Together, we are more than the sum of our parts.”

Pages 6-7 & 8-9

Family Traditions and Celebrations

Write about some of your favorite family activities and traditions: favorite foods and recipes, outdoor activities, sports, cultural events, holidays, vacations, games, service projects, etc.

Pages 10-11

Family Humor

Every family has their quirks. What are some of your family jokes, sayings, nicknames, songs, funny clothing, humorous rituals, unusual recipes, etc.

Pages 12-13 & 14-15

Family Values

What are your family values? These can be ethical principals, values like hard work, community service, education, sports or outdoor activities, spirituality, etc. What kind of roles to these values play in your day-to-day lives? Share experiences and stories that illustrate these principals at work in your family.

Pages 16-17

Our Family Rules

Rules help us live and play together successfully. What are some of the simple rules your family observes (or tries to observe) that help you create balance and harmony in the family and that help each family member succeed in their own endeavors?

Say Please and Thank You...

No hitting...

Homework before video games...

Don't feed Dad after midnight...

Pages 18-19

Heroes from Our Past

These stories can strengthen our heritage. These can be relatives and extended family members or ancestors who have set great examples for your family, or whose hard work has made it possible for your family to have what you have today.

Pages 20-21

The Vision and Mission of Our Family's Future

Write about your short- and long-term goals for your family. Write about your love for each member of your family. Let each member of the family contribute a goal or a dream to this page. Life is a journey that you are committing to...one that you will see through—together—no matter what.