



ACTIVITY CHECKLIST



Q2 • Storytelling • Elementary Lower Storytelling Across Generations

Before the Activity

- ☐ Review the Activity Overview for this activity.
- ☐ Gather needed materials: storybook (Grandfather's Journey or similar), question worksheet, permission form, memo to adults, thank-you note templates.
- ☐ Preview the book you will read aloud and note discussion points connected to oral history.
- ☐ Prepare the interview question sheet and space for students to add their own questions.
- ☐ Develop Memo to adults about the project and Permission form for sharing stories and images in line with your school's policies
- ☐ Make copies of:
 - Memo to adults
 - Interview Question Student Worksheet
 - Permission form

During the Activity

1. Introduction Oral History

- ☐ Explain that students will explore independence through stories and discussion.
- ☐ Ask students if they know any stories from when they were babies or very young.
- ☐ Have students share one story with a partner.
- ☐ Invite a few students to share with the class.
- ☐ Guide students to understand: Someone else had to tell them these stories.
- ☐ Explain that historians use oral history to learn about events they did not personally experience.



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2. Read Aloud & Discuss

- ☐ Read Grandfather's Journey (or similar) in class.
- ☐ Facilitate discussion:
 - What part of the story was most interesting?
 - What do you know about your own grandparents or grown-ups in your life?
 - What questions would you like to ask them about their childhood?
- ☐ Collect student ideas to build the interview question list.

3. Create Interview Questions

- ☐ Provide the question worksheet and add space for students' own questions.
- ☐ Include suggested questions:
 - When and where were you born?
 - What was life like when you were my age?
 - What important things happened in your life?
 - What was school like? What did you do for fun?
- ☐ Model asking questions and let students practice in pairs.

4. Send-Home Materials

- ☐ Send home:
 - Memo to adults explaining the project
 - Interview question form
 - Permission form allowing sharing of story/photo in class



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After the Activity

Oral History Interview

- ☐ Students ask a grown-up to tell them what life was like when they were a child.
- ☐ Students use their question sheet to guide the conversation.
- ☐ Ask the adult for a childhood photo OR a description of a memory.
- ☐ Students may:
 - Bring a copy of the photo
 - Draw the memory as described
 - Draw the location or scene if no photo exists

Show & Share

- ☐ Students present their photo or drawing in class, small groups, or partners.
- ☐ Use reflection questions:
 - What is the same between then and now?
 - What is different?
 - What did you enjoy learning the most?

Class Display & Thanks

- ☐ Create a class collage or bulletin board of student images.
- ☐ Students write thank-you notes to the adults they interviewed.
- ☐ Students hand-deliver or mail their notes.