Preserving Family Histories: CYO Family Tree

This program is ideal for: grades K-5, Girl Scout Brownies

Participants will:

- Learn how families throughout history tracked their family history.
- Analyze primary sources, including samplers and quilts.
- Learn more about their genealogy by creating a family tree.

Materials:

- Colored Pencils/Markers
- Paper
- Family Tree Outline
- Other arts and crafts supplies (stickers, stencils, colored paper, etc.)

Optional:

- Toilet Paper Roll
- Green Paper
- Pencils
- Scissors

Activity Overview:

- Participants will start by defining; ancestor, family tree, research, primary source, family history.
- Participants will analyze primary sources and point out observations about samplers and quilts from the DAR Museum’s Online Catalog. Participants can write down their observations to use when creating their own family trees.
- Participants can decide which type of tree they would like to make: 2D or 3D. Participants can use the provided tree outline or create their own using toilet paper rolls and green paper.
- Participants will write a list of their family members they would like to include on their family tree. The list can include family, pets, close friends, whoever they consider family.
- If participants decide on a 2D tree:
  - Create the tree. It can include features on other primary sources and as many names as the participant likes.
- If participants decide on a 3D tree:
  - Trace your hand on green paper. Cut out. Cut a small slit at the base of the “palms.”
  - Cut slits into the toilet paper roll.
  - Write family member’s names on the “branches”/fingers.
  - Slide paper into toilet paper roll slits.