Genealogy
Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you, but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.
This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed,
and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.
If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",
"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.
No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub.# 33216) and/or on Scouting.org.

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2023   •   This workbook was updated in November 2023.

Scout's Name:_____ Unit_____Date Started _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.:_____Email: _____

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1.. Do EACH of the following:

    a. Explain to your counselor what the words genealogy, ancestor, and descendant mean.

Genealogy:

Ancestor:

Descendant:

b.   Explain what a family tree is and what information would be kept there.

c.   Explain what a family group record is and what information would be kept there.

2.   Do ONE of the following:

☐   a.   Do a time line for yourself or for a relative.

Then write a short biography based on that time line.

     b.   Keep a journal for 6 weeks. You must write in it at least once a week.

3.   With your parent or guardian's help, choose a relative or a family acquaintance you can interview in person, by telephone, or by e-mail or letter. Record the information you collect so you do not forget it.

4.   Do EACH of the following:

     a.   Name three types of physical genealogical resources and where you can find them, and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.

Resource .type 1:		Where to find them:	

Resource .type 2.		Where to find them:	

Resource .type 3.		Where to find them:	

b. Name three types of digital genealogical resources and where you can find them, and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.

Resource .type 1:		Where to find them:	
Resource .type 2.		Where to find them:	
Resource .type 3.		Where to find them:	

c. Obtain at least one genealogical document that supports an event that is or can be recorded on your pedigree chart or family group record.

What document?		What Evdent?	

d. Tell how you found it and how you would evaluate the genealogical information you found for requirement 4c.

e.   Tell a likely place to find these type of genealogical records: marriage record, census record, birth record, and burial information.

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5.   Contact ONE of the following individuals or institutions. Ask what genealogical services, records, or activities this individual or institution provides, and report the results:

☐   a.   A genealogical or lineage society

☐   b.   A professional genealogist (someone who gets paid for doing genealogical research)

☐   c.   A surname organization, such as your family's organization

☐   d.   A genealogical education facility or institution.

☐   e.   A genealogical record repository of any type (courthouse, genealogical library, state or national archive, state library, etc.)

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☐   6.   Begin your family tree by listing yourself and include at least two additional generations. You may complete this requirement by using the chart provided in the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice. (See the sample Pedigree Chart at the end of this workbook)

☐   7.   Complete a family group record form, listing yourself and your brothers and sisters as the children. On another family group record form, show one of your parents and his or her brothers and sisters as the children. This requirement may be completed using the chart provided or the genealogy software program of your choice.
(See the sample Family Group Record Charts at the end of this workbook)

8.   Do the following:

a.   Explain the effect computers and the Internet are having on the world of genealogy.

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b. Explain how photography (including microfilming) has influenced genealogy.

c. Explain how record indexing works and how that has influenced genealogy.

9. Discuss what you have learned about your family and your family members through your genealogical research.

Pedigree Chart

His Father:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

My Father;

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

His Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Me

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Her Father:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

My Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Her Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Family Group Chart

Husband's Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			
Wife's Maiden Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			

Children (list whether living or dead, in order of Birth)

Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	

Notes:

Family Group Chart

Husband's Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			
Wife's Maiden Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			
Children (list whether living or dead, in order of Birth)			
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
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Notes:			

b. Explain how photography (including microfilming) has influenced genealogy.

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9. Discuss what you have learned about your family and your family members through your genealogical research.

Pedigree Chart

His Father:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

My Father;

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

His Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Me

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Her Father:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

My Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Her Mother:

Name:

Born:

Place:

Married:

Place:

Died:

Place:

Family Group Chart

Husband's Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			
Wife's Maiden Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			

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Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	

Notes:

Family Group Chart

Husband's Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			
Wife's Maiden Name			
Birth Date		Place	
Died		Place	
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Other info			

Children (list whether living or dead, in order of Birth)

Name		Male/Female	
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Married		Place	
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Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	
Name		Male/Female	
Birth Date		Place	
Married		Place	
Died		Place	
Spouse's Name		Male/Female	

Notes: