

# MY FAMILY TREE (LEVEL 3)

Description	Help the learner discover their family's history and learn about the different ways we can look for information!
Leading Question	What can be learned from our own family tree?
Total Time Required	30-50 mins a day for 4 days (total of approximately 2.5 to 3 hours)
Supplies Required	Chart or regular paper, notebook, color pens, relevant family photos, articles, etc., phone for "interviews"
Learning Outcomes	<ol> <li>Primary and secondary sources in social science research</li> <li>The process of conducting historical research</li> <li>Family tree research project</li> </ol>
Previous Learning	Not Applicable

### DAY 1

Today you will learn about how to create a family tree and come up with some questions to help guide your family tree.

Suggested Duration	Activity and Description
5 minutes	<ul> <li>Explain to the learner that this project is to get to know his or her family a little better and learn how to do historical research.</li> </ul>
10 minutes	<ul> <li>Use a relevant public figure biography to introduce the concept of family tree. E.g.: read excerpts from AI Seera AI Nabawiyya and chart out Prophet Muhammed's family tree!</li> </ul>
5 - 10 minutes	• Decide on how far down their family tree they will go and whom they want to explore. For example, you could choose to stop at the learner's great-grandparents on either side.
10 - 20 minutes	<ul> <li>Brainstorm with the learner or ask them to come up with 10 questions/things they want to know about their family members. For example: What career is most common in your family? Did your family migrate at any point?</li> </ul>



	• TIP: Try to make sure that the questions cover a range of subjects such as math, science, geography, etc.
10 minutes	<ul> <li>Ask the learner to draw the family tree on a large piece of paper! Numerous templates are available online. Get creative!</li> </ul>

# DAY 2

Today you will research answers to the questions you created using a mix of sources about your family members.

Suggested Duration	Activity and Description
10 minutes	<ul> <li>Inform the learner that he or she will do research to find out about each family member.</li> <li>Give them clues about where they can find information.</li> <li>Sources can include government records, family members, family photos, family social groups, newspaper/other articles, etc.</li> </ul>
5 minutes	<ul> <li>Inform the learner that he or she can also conduct interviews with family members by calling or texting them to ask about someone in the family tree!</li> <li>Explain that they are using primary (records, photos, letters, oral history, interviews) and secondary sources (articles) in their project.</li> </ul>
20 minutes	• Have the learner begin researching a mix of primary and secondary sources.
5-10 minutes	<ul> <li>Ask the learner to create a plan for how they intend to gather the information.</li> <li>Discuss with the learner what he or she has discovered and if anything has surprised them.</li> </ul>

## DAY 3

Today you will continue learning about your family!

Suggested Duration	Activity and Description
20 - 30 minutes	<ul> <li>Have the learner continue interviewing and researching different family members, making sure he or she has enough information per family member (1 paragraph minimum)</li> </ul>

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20-30	Make sure that the learner is documenting all information collected
minutes	in a notebook or a piece of paper and creating the necessary
	tables/charts to represent their findings and answer the questions.

### DAY 4

Today you will use your art skills to create your family tree and present your family tree to your family!

Suggested Duration	Activity and Description
20-30 minutes	<ul> <li>Ask the learner to fill in the family tree template created on the first day. Make sure the family tree is complete with:</li> <li>The names of all the family members</li> <li>The years they were alive</li> <li>Key information from the learner's research (2-3points)</li> <li>Other details you decided on</li> </ul>
20 minutes	<ul> <li>Attach a photo if available! The learner can also draw their family members if photos are not available.</li> </ul>
10 minutes	<ul> <li>Ask the learner to present their findings to you as a family – both the family tree as well as the answers to the 10 questions they identified on day 1.</li> </ul>
20-30 minutes	<ul> <li>Discuss with the learner what he or she discovered and enjoyed the most and least about this process, challenges they faced, etc.</li> <li>Note: you may frame the family tree if desired to celebrate the learner's work!</li> </ul>

### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

- Complete family tree with each member's basic information: name, years alive, and 2-3 sentences about their life.
- Use of primary and secondary resources in research.
- Completion of academic and non-academic related extension tasks depending on learning goals.

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### **ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**

- Ask the learner to research key historical events (national, regional and international) that have occurred during the lifetime of each member on the family tree and include it in the description adjacent to each family member.
- Replicate the family tree project in the learner's native language if it is different from English.