

Web Quest Subject: Tradition

Web Quest Title: Family Cookbook

Key competences: cultural awareness and expression; digital competence; social and civic competence; teamwork; critical thinking; creativity; online research; communication.

Key words: Family traditions; national traditions; European culture; cultural traditions; cultural diversity.

Introduction

Traditions, customs, rites, rituals play an important role in our lives and directly in our development. They always stabilize social relations, consolidating what has been achieved over the centuries by generations of our ancestors.

The purpose of this Web Quest is to uncover the influence of traditions and rituals on human life and culture, because it was a human society that created the culture, building up the experience gained over the years.

Also, it will help you to develop an understanding, respect, and appreciation for your family and their traditions and for traditions from other cultures.



Task

Your family don't celebrate holidays and don't do any traditional things as every your friends' families do. It's not always was like that. 10 years ago when your grandparents were alive you had celebrated all holidays and had traditional family meals every week.

You decided to bring back those traditions into your family house that will last for generation. The only way to do so - is to find your grandmother's family cookbook. A cookbook means more than just a recipe collection. It means a book that holds memories, photographs, history, tradition...and maybe even a few secrets. But also, recipes. You go to visit your grandparent's villa you have never been after they passed away. The old house was dusty but still kept that warm atmosphere. There was a tiny room at the end of the hall, where grandparents spent most of the time and kept all their properties.



The shelves were all in souvenirs and photographs from around the world, books in different languages and handwritten diaries.

To help you to find a Family Cookbook, you are given the tasks based on the deep traditions of your family.

Note for Facilitator:

First thing first, divide learners into random groups of 3 or 4 and have them share their creative thoughts and do researches on their own to develop their ideas and to present their new tradition at the end of the task. In this Web Quest, the role of the facilitator is to lead a group discussion during the lesson process and the role of the curator at the end.

Process:

Step 1: What is a tradition?

Where you should looking for a Family Cookbook, you may ask? There are thousands of books in that tiny room. The answer is easy, the deepest spot in the room, the place where everyone will hide the greatest treasure of their life. Answering the questions below you will find the hidden place.

“Tradition” seems like a simple word to define, but the definition “the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation, or the fact of being passed on in this way” – is incomplete. Let's define this more completely. So, what is a tradition? What makes it a tradition?

It is important to know answers in those questions if you want to return your forgotten family traditions.

Take a look at the content available in these links to better understand what a tradition is:

- <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/tradition>
- <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/tradition>
- <https://web.law.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/microsites/gender-sexuality/What%20is%20tradition.pdf>
- <https://www.encyclopedia.com/social-sciences-and-law/sociology-and-social-reform/sociology-general-terms-and-concepts/tradition>



Step 2: The role of traditions in our life

The hidden place you are looking for is over here! The Family Cookbook was in ring binders and a lock, it shows how grandparents were interested in preserving their family heritage.

At all times and among all peoples, the main goal was preservation, consolidation, and development of good folk customs and traditions for passing on to younger generations of everyday, industrial, spiritual, experience gained by previous generations.



Focus on a special family food tradition, including a description of the occasion for which the food is prepared (even if it's just for Sunday breakfast), who prepares it and how, special utensils or ingredients used, other rituals connected with the food custom. Make an individual PowerPoint presentation of that recipe and the whole process along. This activity will help you to open the lock placed on a Family Cookbook.

Follow this link to watch about the meaning and role of traditions in our life:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=knTBMoqluv0>

Step 3: Differences, and similarities between European traditions

Finally! You opened the Family Cookbook. As you can see, the first pages of the book include a glimpse into the author's life: travel memories, photographs, and stories about the creation of the recipes, etc. It shows the richness and deepness of your family traditions.



Europe is an area of unity in diversity where people of different sects, caste and religion live together. When raising in a multicultural environment you must first get to know and appreciate one's own culture, wish to share it and do so. Then you can get to know other cultures and accept them, respect them.

Choose any European country different from yours and make research in order to fill up several aspects from that country. The following are only suggestions.

Traditional dress:

Folk music:

Art and craft:

Festivals:

Religion:

Traditional dance:

Cuisine (food):

Traditional jewellery:

Family system (roles, size of family):

Customs:

Compare your answers to others and discuss: Do all European countries practice the same or similar traditions?

Answering on these questions will make you understand the connection with your family past and will give you a clue as to their ethnic origins.

Step 4: Keeping tradition alive in the modern world

Book is yours! The question is, how you are going to implement those forgotten traditions inside your family? The following activity will show you the right answer.

Traditions are still important, even if we decided to change our past world to the modern world, we only changed the way of living, not physical being, we still copy of the past. Modern society is becoming a



mixture of cultures, but as we move forward, we can choose to celebrate our pasts and have them become a part of our cultural future!

Perhaps we should take time more often to appreciate the traditions that keep our cultures alive.

Research internet websites to see what traditions are forgotten and don't exist today, or how your favorite family traditions have changed over time and make a prediction about that tradition. Make a group decision which one topic conduct further research and how you may demonstrate your researches and ideas online (you may write short articles or create audio or video files).

Those links might be useful for you:

- <https://mattcornock.co.uk/technology-enhanced-learning/creative-ways-to-present-work-digitally/>
- <https://blog.rankreveal.com/interesting-ways-to-present-boring-information/>

Step 5: Start your own Family Tradition

It's not so easy to implement traditions into your family and keep them alive. A lot of traditions just lost their value, and some - need reincarnation. Anyway, tradition is something that binds families together and makes them feel safe and comfortable. So, let's create a culture within your friends and family and start traditions that last a lifetime. Develop a new tradition to be integrated into your family.



Gather group research and interviews, and brainstorm a new tradition to propose.

Here are some potential ideas to try.

- Creating a new decoration or ornament every year for your own home or as a gift.
- Singing songs or playing musical instruments with the whole family.
- Spending a vacation living in a camp, tent, or camper.
- Watching the sun go up or come down, fishing or collecting berries and mushrooms every season.

When the peer review is finalised, you and your team have to make a short presentation about your new tradition for the curator, it is important that you address the following questions:

- What purpose would the new tradition serve?
- How would it fill a gap in the traditions that already exist?
- How would the new tradition bring your family together?
- Is there a role that technology can play in new tradition?

Learning outcomes

Knowledge	skills	Attitudes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Factual knowledge to define tradition.- Theoretical knowledge about importance of traditions in our life.- Basic knowledge about various traditions in Europe.- Factual knowledge about differences, and similarities between of some European traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Present different traditions to group members.- Apply research skills to look for information about European traditions.- Ability to collect and examine information about traditions, and compare traditions to others.- Apply initiative skills in activities of the Web Quest.- Practice teamwork skills to complete the project.- Ability to examine information sources online for making predictions about the tradition future.- Apply critical thinking to identify traditions' differences and similarities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Awareness of different cultural, religious, personal, and family traditions in Europe.- Appreciation of European traditions.- Respect for the different European traditions.

Conclusion

European countries are full of traditions, some of them are very beautiful, colourful and picturesque and seem very reasonable; others are curious, sometimes funny, sometimes exist only to attract tourists. Many traditions have appeared a long time ago and many centuries have passed, while others have appeared relatively recently. There are many traditions related to historical events, Parliament, the court of law, university life, as well as traditions that appear in everyday life.

National holidays, traditions and rituals - this is not just a way, a method or technique by which you can have fun, it is a culture and art, thanks to which, and through which achieved a harmonious relationship between the past, present and future of our people, and the task of this Web Quest is to prove that these traditions play an important role in your life and directly in your development.

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