GENEALOGY

“Enhancing our youths’ competitive edge through merit badges”
Requirements

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

2. Do ONE of the following:
   a. Create a time line for yourself or for a relative. Then write a short biography based on that time line.
   b. Keep a journal for six weeks. You must write in it at least once a week.

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

4. Do the following:
   a. Name three types of genealogical resources and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.
   b. Obtain at least one genealogical document that supports an event that is or can be recorded on your pedigree chart or family group record. The document could be found at home or at a government office, religious organization, archive, or library.
   c. Tell how you would evaluate the genealogical information you found for requirement 4b.
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 educational facility or institution
   e. A genealogical record repository of any type (courthouse, genealogical library, state or national archive, state library, etc.)

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 this pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice.

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.

8. Do the following:
   a. Explain the effect computers and the Internet are having on the world of genealogy.
   b. Explain how photography (including microfilming) has influenced genealogy.

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

Scouting Literature

*Boy Scout Journal; American Heritage* merit badge pamphlet

Visit the Boy Scouts of America’s official retail website at http://www.scoutstuff.org for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

Books


Genealogy Resources

Magazines
Family Chronicle
Toll-free telephone: 888-326-2476
Website: http://www.familychronicle.com

Family Tree Magazine
Toll-free telephone: 855-840-5122
Website: http://www.familytreemagazine.com

Archives and Libraries
National Archives and Records Administration
Toll-free telephone: 866-272-6272
Website: http://www.archives.gov

Library of Congress
Local History and Genealogy Reading Room
Website: http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy

The Newberry Library
Website: http://www.newberry.org/genealogy-and-local-history

Genealogical Societies
The Family History Library and Family History Centers
Website: https://www.familysearch.org

National Genealogical Society
Website: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org

New England Historic Genealogical Society
Website: http://www.nehgs.org

Genealogy Websites
AfriGeneas
Website: http://www.afrigeneas.com

Ancestry.com
Website: http://www.ancestry.com

Cyndi’s List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet
Website: http://www.cyndislist.com

FamilySearch
Website: https://www.familysearch.org

Genealogy.com
Website: http://www.genealogy.com

The USGenWeb Project
Website: http://www.usgenweb.com

The WorldGenWeb Project
Website: http://www.worldgenweb.org

Genealogy Software
Family Tree Maker
Website: http://www.familytreemaker.com

Genealogy Pro for Mac OS X
Website: http://www.macgenealogy.org

Family Tree Maker® 2008
Website: http://www.genealogy.com/softmain.html

Legacy 6.0 Family Tree
Website: http://www.legacyfamilytree.com

Personal Ancestral File
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Website: https://www.familysearch.org

Reunion 9
Website: http://www.leisterpro.com