

First Steps in

GENEALOGY

1. Start with what YOU know: write down names, dates, and stories about your family

TIP

Write your notes on premade family charts or explore family tree software on your computer or mobile device



2. Gather info from family members

TIP

Things "Talk" Don't forget to examine photos, heirlooms and memorabilia

3. Determine your first research goal



Create an organization plan for your research

TIP

4. Start a first search through an online database: Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest are offered here at the library!

Cite and document all sources, you may need them later

TIP

5. Discover genealogy courses and help forums

TIP

Network with other genealogists online or at Genealogical Society meetings - Ask the Reference Desk for a list

6. Explore alternative resources



Look at libraries, digital libraries, archives, cemeteries, historical societies, court houses, government offices, and universities

TIP

X3

7. Preserve and Share your research

Preservation Rule of 3
= 3 copies, in 2 different formats, 1 off-site

TIP