

Teaching Family History: Science & Math Projects Teacher's Guide

This guide provides ready-made science and math project ideas that teachers can use to help students explore family history in meaningful, cross-curricular ways. Each project is simple, adaptable, and encourages connections between home and school learning.

■ Science Project: Family Traits Survey

Objective: To explore how physical traits are passed down in families and understand the concept of heredity.

Steps:

1. Choose 3–5 traits (eye color, hair type, dimples, left/right handedness, tongue rolling).
2. Make a chart with family members (parents, grandparents, siblings).
3. Record traits for each family member.
4. Analyze the data: Which traits are most common?
5. Present results in a bar graph or pie chart.

Learning Outcomes: Students learn the difference between inherited traits and learned behaviors, practice data collection, and link science concepts to real life.

Science Project Worksheet: Family Traits Survey

Family Member	Eye Color	Hair Type	Dimples (Yes/No)	Left/Right Handed	Tongue Roll (Yes/No)
Me					
Parent 1					
Parent 2					
Grandparent 1					
Grandparent 2					

Questions:

1. Which traits are most common in your family?
2. Do you share more traits with your parents or grandparents?
3. Which traits surprised you?

■ Math Project: My Family by the Numbers

Objective: To collect and organize data about family members and represent it mathematically.

Steps:

1. Collect data: ages, number of siblings, birth years, family size, etc.
2. Organize data into a family table.
3. Mathematical tasks:
 - Calculate the average age.
 - Find the range (youngest to oldest).
 - Work out percentages (e.g., % living in the same city).
 - Create timelines or graphs of family generations.
4. Present findings in a poster or digital chart.

Learning Outcomes: Students apply math concepts such as mean, range, percentages, and data visualization in a real-life context.

Math Project Worksheet: My Family by the Numbers

Name	Relationship	Age	Birth Year	City of Residence
Me				
Parent 1				
Parent 2				
Sibling				
Grandparent 1				

Tasks:

1. Find the average age of your family members.
2. What is the range between the youngest and oldest?
3. Create a bar graph of ages.
4. What percentage of your family lives in the same city?

■ Math + Geography Project: Mapping My Family Origins

Objective: To combine math and geography by mapping family origins and calculating distances.

Steps:

1. Collect family birthplaces (parents, grandparents, etc.).
2. Plot these locations on a map.
3. Use the map scale to calculate distances from the student's hometown.
4. Create a table of distances.
5. Represent data in graphs or percentages.

Learning Outcomes: Students practice measurement, map reading, percentages, and spatial thinking while appreciating migration and diversity within families.

Math + Geography Worksheet: Mapping My Family Origins

Family Member	Birthplace (City/State/Country)	Distance from My Hometown (km)	Mode of Travel (Past/Now)
Me			
Parent 1			
Parent 2			
Grandparent 1			
Grandparent 2			

Questions:

1. Which family member was born farthest from your hometown?
2. What is the total distance covered by your family across generations?
3. How do travel times today compare with the past?