



Introduction to genealogy with EuGENEus!



*Special words are underlined.
You just have to consult the glossary to see the definition.*

I am from the future travelling through time to find my ancestors. Follow me to learn what genealogy is!

Hello! I'm **EuGENEus**.
Your special G.G.G. agent!!!
A Galactic Genealogical
Genius!

**So... what is
genealogy?**

Genealogy is the study of a family's history — from children to parents, to grandparents, to great-grandparents to great-great-grandparents... and so on!

Figure it out... If you go back four generations to your great-great-grandparents, how many ancestors have you?





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What's so
fascinating about
genealogy?

Genealogy is a lot like trying to put all the pieces of a big puzzle together.

Take the test!

Do you sometimes ask these questions?

- Where do I come from?
- Why do I live in this part of the world?
- When did my family arrive in Canada?

**YES! Let's explore
your family's past.**

Let's make the journey together through time... HEY, you might also become a G.G.G.! A Galactic Genealogical Genius!





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How to find out more about your family and ancestors...

Follow these 5 steps to help you find information and complete your Family Chart.

STEP 1: Start by... YOU!

Write down all the names and information you know about your family. Write them into one of the two Family Charts (last pages of this handout).





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STEP 2: **Ask family members...**

Interview your parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. This will help you find more information about your [ancestors](#).

Look at my interview guide and my list of questions!

EuGENEus' guide to interviewing

- 1.** Make a list of all the people you would like to interview.
- 2.** Before starting, write the name of the person you are interviewing on the questionnaire.
- 3.** An interview can be conducted in person, by telephone, by e-mail, or by writing a letter and sending your questionnaire.
- 4.** To remember all the information you are given, write down the information and take notes during the interviews. You can also audiotape or videotape the interviews.





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Interview questions:

Your name:

My relation to you:

Questions to ask:

1. When were you born?

2. Where were you born?

3. Are you married?

4. Where do you live?

5. What type of job do you have?

6. What are the names of your parents and grandparents?





Interview questions (continued):

Other questions to ask:

1. Can you tell me stories about your parents and grandparents?

2. Can you tell me where your parents and grandparents lived?

3. What is your favourite family memory?

4. Do you remember special family traditions?

5. Do you have a special story about me when I was younger?

Remember to send the people who help you a copy of your final Family Chart... and of course thank them for their help!



STEP 3: Look for clues... **and become an Ancestor Detective**

Special documents can help you find information about your family and [family events](#).

1. Baby books: Parents write information in baby books. Where were you born? What were your first words?



Baby's name: *Jane Susan Harris*
 Date of birth: *Friday, February 28, 1944*
at 9:45 in the morning
 Weight at birth: *8 pounds, 6 ounces*
 Height at birth: *21 inches*
 Place of birth: *Toronto, Ontario*

Jane's footprints taken at 4 months.
First lock of hair cut at 9 months.
We are now living in Kingston, Ontario!



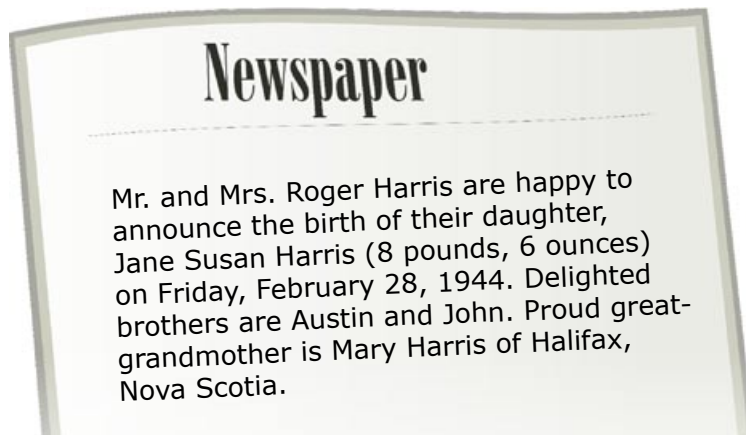


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2. Birth or death announcements: Some people announce the [birth](#) and [death](#) of family members in the newspaper.

You will find important information, such as names of parents and important dates.



3. Letters: New and old letters are a great way to find stories about your family.

Toronto, Ontario
Wednesday, March 12, 1944

My dear Susan,

I hope all is well and that your children are healthy. I wanted to let you know that our third child, a daughter, was born two weeks ago, on February 28. Her name is Jane. We now have two boys and one little girl. Austin and John are growing quickly. I think they both will be very tall. Roger, a proud father, is very happy to have a little girl.

We might visit you in Kingston this summer. How long is the train ride to Kingston?

I think of you often.
Affectionately,
Your sister Anna





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4. Photo albums: A photo album will give you many clues. Discover what family members looked alike, how they dressed, what they did, and where they lived.



Austin and John having fun with mom! Toronto, June 1945.



Look what Santa brought me! Austin on Christmas morning, 1943.



Hello Auntie Susan! Austin and John visiting Susan in Kingston, July 1944.



5. The Internet: Special Web sites can help you find information about your [family history](#).

When you find information or documents on the Internet, ask yourself these questions:

1. What type of document is this?
2. What is the date of the document?
3. Who created the document?





1. www.archives.ca: Select in the left-hand menu ArchiviaNet

Select from the list of databases:

- Government of Canada files
- Colonial archives
- Immigration records.

Enter names of family members and see what comes up!

2. www.familysearch.org



STEP 4:

Fill out the Family Chart!

The Family Chart is like a [Family Tree](#) and it's a great way to keep the information you found during your research!

Write down the information in each section.

To make it easier for you, each person receives a number in the Chart. Pay attention to the numbers!

ATTENTION

It's important to handle old documents with care. Ask permission to photocopy the documents and create a book with the photocopies.

You might want to add tabs to your book to indicate each [generation](#).



STEP 5: A project on your family **It's showtime!**

Create a presentation panel that shows the information you found on your family. Your presentation should include:

1. Your given name and surname;
2. Your Family Chart;
3. A fascinating facts section;
4. Funniest story about your siblings, maternal ancestors or paternal ancestors;
5. Photos (photocopies);
6. Photocopy of an old document;
7. A favourite family recipe.

*Why not bring a sample of the recipe for your presentation?

Now try to find as many family members as possible and complete one of the two **Family Charts!** To go back 5 generations you would need to identify **31** family members...

WOW!



Family Chart 1

Family Relation	Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Place of Birth (town and country)	Special information (name of children, special accomplishments, special events, etc.)
1st generation					
1 Me					
2nd generation					
2 Father of #1					
3 Mother of #1					
3rd generation					
4 Grandfather (Father of #2)					
5 Grandmother (Mother of #2)					
6 Grandfather (Father of #3)					
7 Grandmother (Mother of #3)					
4th generation					
8 Great-grandfather (Father of #4 or #5)					
9 Great-grandmother (Mother of #4 or #5)					
10 Great-grandfather (Father of #6 or #7)					
11 Great-grandmother (Mother of #6 or #7)					

Family Chart 2

	Family Relation	Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Place of Birth (town and country)	Special information (name of children, special accomplishments, special events, etc.)
	1st generation					
1	Me					
	2nd generation					
2	Father of #1					
3	Mother of #1					
	3rd generation					
4	Grandfather (Father of #2)					
5	Grandmother (Mother of #2)					
6	Grandfather (Father of #3)					
7	Grandmother (Mother of #3)					
	4th generation					
8	Great-grandfather (Father of #4)					
9	Great-grandmother (Mother of #4)					
10	Great-grandfather (Father of #5)					
11	Great-grandmother (Mother of #5)					
12	Great-grandfather (Father of #6)					
13	Great-grandmother (Mother of #6)					
14	Great-grandfather (Father of #7)					
15	Great-grandmother (Mother of #7)					

Family Chart 2 (continued)

	Family relation	Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Place of Birth (town and country)	Special information (name of children, special accomplishments, special events, etc.)
	5th generation					
16	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #8)					
17	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #8)					
18	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #9)					
19	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #9)					
20	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #10)					
21	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #10)					
22	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #11)					
23	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #11)					
24	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #12)					
25	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #12)					
26	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #13)					
27	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #13)					
28	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #14)					
29	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #14)					
30	Great-great-grandfather (Father of #15)					
31	Great-great-grandmother (Mother of #15)					