

MSU Extension Publication Archive

Archive copy of publication, do not use for current recommendations. Up-to-date information about many topics can be obtained from your local Extension office.

Family Folklore- A Place for Everything and Everything in Its Place and Family Treasure Hunt and Keepsake Notebook

Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service

4-H Club Bulletin

Issued N.D.

2 pages

The PDF file was provided courtesy of the Michigan State University Library

Scroll down to view the publication.



A Place for Everything and Everything in Its Place

- PURPOSE:** To become familiar with some basics of how to help preserve your keepsakes and your family's keepsakes
- YOU'LL NEED:** Your completed Keepsakes Profile
- TIME:** Varies
- HOW TO DO IT:** After you have completed your "Personal Treasure Checklist" or "Family Treasure Hunt," go over the following list of do's and don'ts with your friends or family:
- **Do keep your treasures clean.**
Keep them away from dust, fingerprints, grease, etc.
 - **Do keep your treasures dry.**
Keep them away from any source of water.
 - **Do keep your treasures in a safe place.**
Keep them where they won't fall, get stepped on, and where a pet can't reach them.
 - **Do keep them out of direct sunlight.**
Direct sunlight fades color and destroys some papers and fabrics.
 - **Do sort your treasures.**
Put similar things together. By putting things in alphabetical order (from "Adam's Baby Things" to "Yosemite Trip") or in chronological order (from my first year to the current year), things will be easier to find.
 - **Do put your things into containers.**
Use envelopes, folders, metal boxes, etc.
 - **Do label all of your treasures by tying a tag to them or marking their storage container.**
 - **Do not affix your label directly onto your treasure.**
- WHAT ELSE?** Decide which of the treasures from your list you want to label and store better. Gather the necessary storage and marking materials, then work with your family or friends to "put everything in its place."

Note: The American Association for State and Local History has a series of inexpensive "Technical Leaflets" available on how to take care of your treasures and keepsakes. A listing of leaflets can be obtained by writing the association at 1400 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, TN 37203.

Family Treasure Hunt and Keepsake Notebook



PURPOSE: To help preserve information on your family keepsakes

YOU'LL NEED: A notebook
Pen or pencil

TIME: Varies

HOW TO DO IT:

1. Begin by having a family treasure hunt. Use the Keepsakes Profile (page 23 of Family Folklore booklet) to think about your family treasures. Then get some of them out. It might take some effort to round them up from their hiding places in the attic, basement, boxes, drawers, and closets. Remember that keepsakes deserve careful handling. Get your family hooked and learn about them together.
2. Start a keepsakes notebook. Use one page of a notebook for each item you locate in your treasure hunt. Include the following information:
 - What it is?
 - What it is used for?
 - How long it has been in the family?
 - Where did it come from?
 - Who were its original and other owners?
 - How was it handed down?
 - Do you know anything else about it (including stories)?
 - Why it is special to the family?You could also sketch or photograph the object. This is a handy way to preserve the family folklore of your keepsakes.

WHAT ELSE?

1. Show your notebook at a fair or school event.
2. Write down stories you have heard about these items.
3. Make up stories about items you don't know much about.