

Prep Year History

Exploring my family history

Posing questions

Transcript of video 2 of 5

This video is available from www.qsa.qld.edu.au/27216.html

Exploring my family history is available from www.qsa.qld.edu.au/25885.html

Interview

Introducing questioning using the 5Ws

Maree Frederiksen: The focus of the history assessment is on questioning and that's quite a difficult concept to work on with Prep age children because they're more likely to tell stories about their family rather than question. So we used the five "W"s: who, what, where, when and why as prompts. When I shared my family tree with the children, they were able to ask those questions of me through the use of prompt cards.

Prep teacher

Sharing a family history model

[Prep teacher shows her family tree to a class of Prep students.]

Maree Frederiksen: Okay, Prep F, I thought before you take Annie and Jake home for your visits with the family history journal, that we might have a look at my family tree. Okay, now if you have a look on here, that's me there, so that's Mrs Fred. You can tell it's me because I've got a necklace on. Okay, did you know that I've got a mummy and a daddy? So this is me here on my family tree but up here, this is my mummy and daddy. Now my mummy and daddy were born a long time ago. This is me here. I wonder who this fellow here might be. Do you know, Annabelle?

Prep teacher

Annabelle: It's your husband.

Prep girl

Maree: It is my husband. It's Mr Fred. So there's Mr Fred and me. This is my brother Jason and he's married to Anita. And Anita was born overseas as well. She was born in a place called Germany. So if we came back all the way here to me and Mr Fred, who do you think these two people here might be? Who do you think, Matheson?

Matheson: Your kids.

Prep boy

Maree: It's my kids; it's my two boys. So this is Matthew and this is Jake.

Prep child: Like Matthew in our class

Maree: That's exactly right. So this is my family tree.

Modelling questioning using the 5Ws

Maree Frederiksen: Okay, Preps, when we're learning about our family history we need to be able to ask questions to find out information about our history. So these are some of the questions that we might ask. We might ask "who" questions. So who is in your family? We might ask "why" questions. We might ask why don't you have a sister? We might ask "when" questions. When were you born? We might ask "where" questions. So we could ask where people were born. We might also ask some "what" questions. What country were you born in?

Posing questions using the 5Ws

Maree Frederiksen: I was wondering if you would like to ask me any questions about my family tree. What do you think, Lucas?

Prep teacher

Lucas: Where were you born?

Prep boy

Maree: Oh, that's such a good question. If you look at my family tree and you ask me where I was born I could say to you that I was born in Ipswich, Australia. So that was a great "where" question. Do you have a question, Owen?

Owen: How old are you?

Prep boy

Maree: How old am I? Mrs Fred was born in 1965 so I am 48 years old.

All prep children: Ooh.

Maree: I know that's really old.