

Description:

Students will work with a trusted adult to find someone 60 or more years old to interview. Students will ask four questions, two of which they create. The answers to the questions should help students better understand recent history. This activity can be started in class and finished at home or another non-classroom setting like an assisted living facility.

Recommended Grades:

- K-2, 3-5

Materials/Resources:

- Interview Handout, Pencil, Clipboard (Optional)

Objectives:

Students will:

- Describe a senior citizen (a person 60+ years old),
- Explain what an interview is,
- Develop two interview questions,
- Listen to answers, repeat them back, and record them correctly, and
- Reflect on the experience and explain its relevance.

Classroom Use:

Discuss the assignment—interview a senior citizen. The teacher may have vetted a list of seniors or ask that students work with a parent/caregiver to find an appropriate person.

Teacher Directions:

Provide a simple definition of a senior citizen—someone who is at least 60 years old. Students may already know someone who qualifies such as a grandparent but will need to start with a parent or caregiver to make contact and get the person’s permission to do the interview.

1. Distribute the “Interview A Senior Citizen” handout and ask students to review it.
2. Ask students to think about two more questions they would like to ask in their interview.
3. To help with this, read or listen to [Talking About the Past](#) in Capstone Interactive.
4. Once students have added two questions, ask them to think about how they will conduct the interview. Suggested guidelines include the following.
 - a. Be polite and respectful.
 - b. Ask the person to agree to the interview and discuss the types of questions you’ll ask.
 - c. You may want to record the conversation. Be sure to get permission first.
 - d. Ask your questions one at a time and explain anything that is unclear.



- e. Listen to the answers carefully and repeat them back before writing them down. You may want to use a different sheet of paper and later copy the answers to the handout.
 - f. Thank the person for their time.
5. Fill out the rest of the handout and turn it into the teacher

At Home Use:

Review the assignment with the child. Look over the two questions they've developed. Set up an interview with a senior citizen. Accompany the child to the interview and guide their interactions.

INTERVIEW WITH A SENIOR CITIZEN



Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Work with a trusted adult to find someone at least 60 years old to interview. Be polite and respectful. Ask the questions below plus two of your own. Write down their answers. For question ideas, read or listen to [Talking About the Past](#) in Capstone Interactive.

Interviewee: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

1. What games did you play at my age?	2. What advice do you have for someone growing up today?
3.	4.

Reflect on the interview and explain it's relevance to your life.

