Traits of Millennials

Millennials have wonderful strengths.

- Value Freedom
- See a Level Playing Field
- Value Relationships
- Value Participation
- Intuitive Learners
- Innovative Thinkers
- Customize Information
- Need Speed
- Love Entertainment

Traits of Family Stories

Try to incorporate one or more of these characteristics into your story.

- Humorous
- Engaging
- Electronic
- Visual
- Short
- Personal

By Heather Pack

Getting Millennials Excited About Family History
You know your loved ones best. Think about how they would want to hear a story. If you don’t know, ask them. Most likely they will tell you they want to feel connected, engaged, and entertained.

**CONNECTION**
Most young people today don’t want to read a thick, dusty book. Instead, they want to feel a connection the person in the story. What elements of this ancestor’s life can be related today? What struggles and challenges do they have in common? What can we learn from this ancestor?

Don’t be afraid to tell a story about a failure, trial, or hardship. These can be valuable lessons for the next generation.

**ENGAGEMENT**
It can be challenging to get young people to sit still and listen to a long story. Try to find ways they can become part of the story. Encourage them to create a piece of art about their ancestor, or help them write their own story.

**ENTERTAINMENT**
Family gatherings is a great way to have fun learning about your ancestors. Create games, skits, or challenges using pictures of your family tree. Set up a virtual race using Google maps and follow the journey of one ancestor’s life. When given enough information, they can think of their own games to play.

As you experiment and try new methods for sharing your family history, you’ll find what works best for you.