

## **American Memory & Me Student Worksheet - Introduction**

**Get started on your Birthday Project!**

### **DIRECTIONS**

1. Go to <http://www.barat-tps.org/studentCorner-americanMemory.php> and click the **Today in History** link.
2. Use the **drop-down menu** to jump to **your birthday** (month and day), then click the **Go** button.
3. Review the information and **browse the site** by clicking the links on the page (remember to use your web browser's **Back** button to return to the main Today in History page).
4. Answer the questions in Part I and Part II of the **American Memory & Me Student Worksheet**.

## American Memory & Me Student Worksheet - Part I

In Part I, you'll discover and document important events in history that happened on your birthday.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

List two to five events that happened in your birth month.

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What type of primary sources did you find? (Circle ALL that you found.)

Photo

Painting

Document

News article

Video file

Audio file

Poster

Pamphlet

Map

Sheet music

Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one event that is really interesting to you. Describe what it might look like and sound like to be present when this event was happening.

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Click a link to a picture from one of the events listed on the Today in History page for your birthday. Take a close look at the picture and describe **AT LEAST** two interesting details that you discovered. Copy the picture and save it.

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Now write about the event, using the picture as the central theme.

Describe the event in at least five sentences, answering the following questions with lots of detail.

- What title can you give the event?
- Where did the event happen?
- When did the event happen?
- What happened at the event?

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## American Memory & Me Student Worksheet - Part II

In Part II, you'll learn that **YOU** are part of the American memory, too.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I was born on \_\_\_\_\_

(month) (day) (year)

and am now \_\_\_\_\_ years old. I was born in

\_\_\_\_\_.

(city) (state) (country)

In the space below (and on the back) describe a contribution you have made to America? Examples include *Girl/Boy scouts, singing for a retirement home, helping out elderly people with chores, or cleaning up your community on Earth Day.*

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What is one contribution you would like to make in your lifetime? Use your imagination and think **BIG**, you can achieve great things!

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Which primary sources exist about your life? (Circle ALL that apply.)

Photos News articles

Video files Audio files

Journal writings School projects

Original artwork

Other? \_\_\_\_\_

## **American Memory & Me Student Worksheet – Newspaper**

**Create a newspaper about you and your special day in history.**

### **DIRECTIONS**

1. Go to <http://www.barat-tps.org/studentCorner-americanMemory.php> and click the **Everyday History** link. Save a copy of the template or print it out.
2. **Paste the historical picture** that you saved from the Library of Congress Today in History page into the appropriate section of the template.
3. **Revise your story from Part I** of the American Memory & Me Student Worksheet, if necessary.
4. **Paste your story** into the appropriate section of the template.
5. **Paste your personal photo** into the appropriate section of the template.
6. **Revise your story from Part II** of the American Memory & Me Student Worksheet, if necessary.
7. **Paste your story** into the appropriate section of the template (see examples on next page).

## EXAMPLES

### **Jim Smith Redesigns Education System**

Jim Smith was born on July 12, 1994 in Binghamton, New York. He was a restless and distracted student throughout the eighth grade. He hated tests. After completing high school and college, Jim decided to become a really cool teacher and make school much more fun. During his life, he helped to redesign the American education system to have fewer tests and more projects. Jim's students loved school and were very successful.

### **Caroline Jones Provides Companions to Millions**

Caroline Jones was born on July 6, 1996 in Chicago, Illinois. She was a great kid who did well in school. She loved teddy bears, and thought that all children needed teddy bears to be happy. When Caroline was seven, she started to work with her friends to collect teddies and give them away. She worked on the project her whole life. Caroline gave away over one million teddy bears, making American children in need very happy.