

Name_____

Date_____

“Worksheet: How My Family Came to the United States”

Directions: Fill in what you already know about how your family came to the United States. Next, take this worksheet home and interview your parents, grandparents or other family members to fill in the remaining information. If this information is not available for your own family, choose an adult friend or neighbor to interview. Ask the person you interview if there are any photos, letters, or other items you can look at that will help you put together a biography of these people who first came to the United States. If you want to scan these images to use in your biography, ask if you can borrow them.

Who in your family history first came to the United States? What are their names? Was it one person, two people, or a group of people traveling together?

What city and country did they immigrate from?

In what year did they make the journey to the United States?

What kind of transportation did they use to get here? What was the journey like?

At which United States city and state did they first arrive?

Why did they decide to come to the United States? What was motivating them to leave their country?

What were their feelings about leaving their country? Was there any conflict in the family about leaving? Were they all in agreement?

What were their hopes, dreams, and beliefs about a new life in the United States?

Did they have any fears about leaving? About staying? What were they?

What were their occupations in the country they were leaving? What was their occupation once they reached the United States?

What else is important to know about your family coming to the United States? (Use the back of the worksheet if needed).