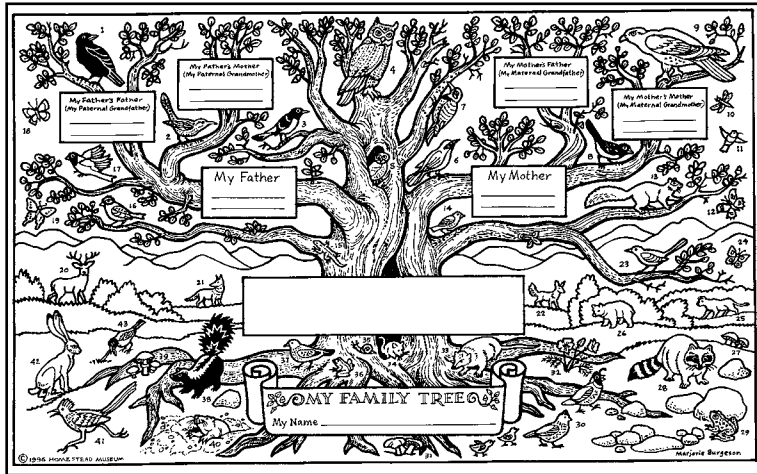


My Family Tree

Lesson Plan



Note: If some of your students are adopted children, the histories of their biological families may be a sensitive issue. This may be true also of students whose biological families have gone through painful experiences. Have these children participate in the activity at any level that is comfortable for them. Students may leave a part of the tree blank, trace your family roots, or the Workman and Temple families.

Additional activities:

1. **Display:** Have students bring in family photographs and arrange pictures and family trees on a bulletin board as a display.
2. **Natural history:** Have students identify animals and plants native to southern California on their family tree (see Answer Key).
3. **Map and globe skills:** Combine the information from the students' family tree work sheets onto a world map that shows where all students were born by marking the countries and states with colored pins.
4. **Student discussion:** Have students share their family histories by bringing in photographs or old artifacts (e.g., old toys, books, clothes).
5. **Presentation:** Have someone come in and share their family background.

Links to standards

Language Arts: RI.4.7, W.4.7, SL.4.5, L.4.1a-h, L.4.2a-d, L.4.3a

Objectives:

1. To identify a method for researching family histories
2. To organize gathered information of family history onto a family tree

Time: 30-45 minutes

Materials:

1. "My Family Tree" activity sheet
2. "My Family Tree Work Sheet"
3. Pencils, crayons, pens, or markers

Directions:

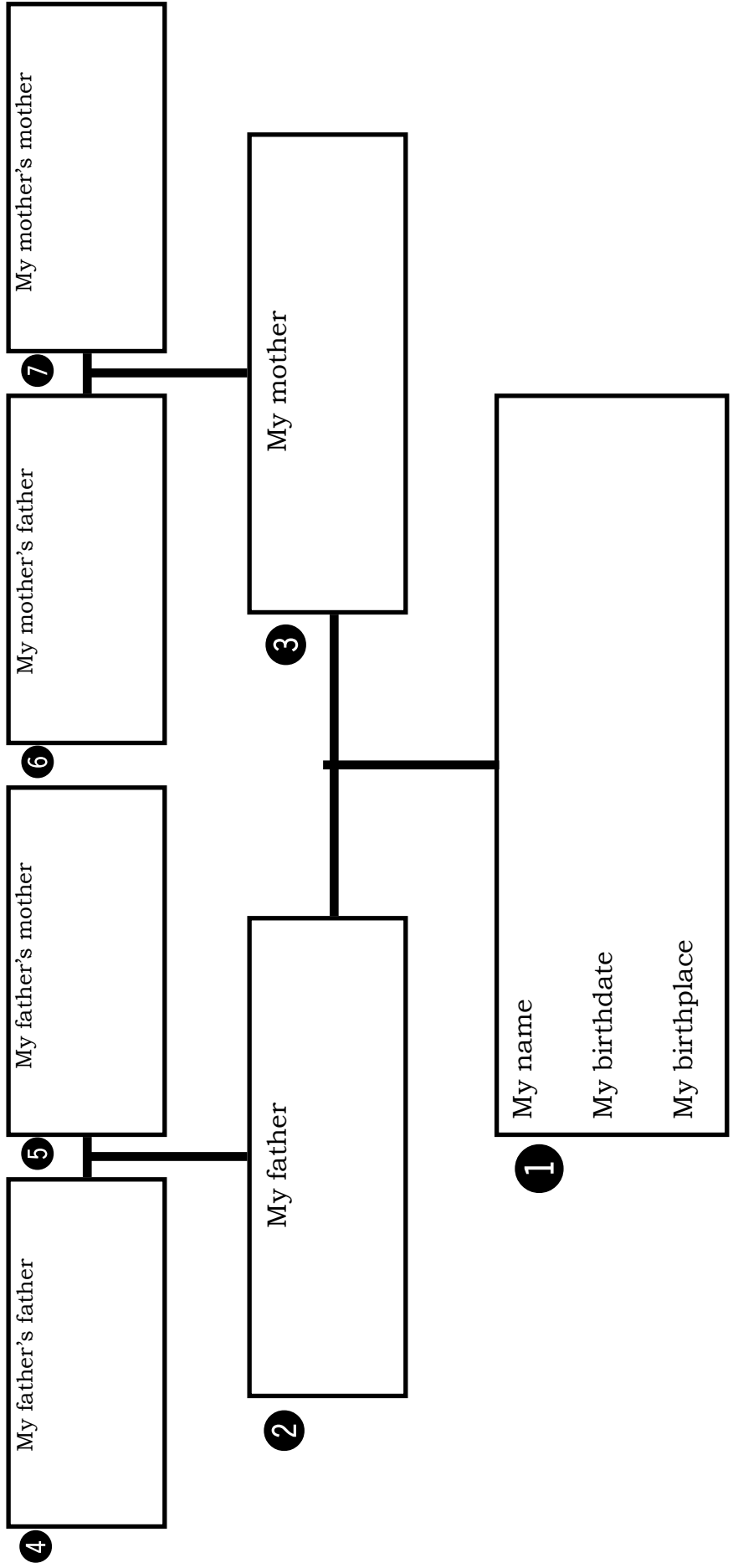
1. **Distribute** "My Family Tree Work Sheet."
2. **Discuss** with students that history is a story about everyday people, things, and events. Our local, state, and even national history is largely composed of a collection of family histories.
3. **Recount your own family history** and how various family members relate to broader historical events (e.g., a parent who grew up in the Depression, fought in World War II, immigrated to this country, etc.).
4. Assuming that there are various ethnic backgrounds represented in your class, **discuss about how one student's family history will significantly differ from that of another**, and how this diversity has strengthened our cultural heritage.
5. Before assigning the work sheet as homework **review the instructions** with your students.
6. After the students have completed the work sheet, **distribute "My Family Tree"** activity sheet.
7. **Explain** to students how they fill in the blanks. Students may also add their brothers, sisters, friends, and pets in the blank box of the family tree.
8. Have students complete their trees by **coloring** the activity sheet.

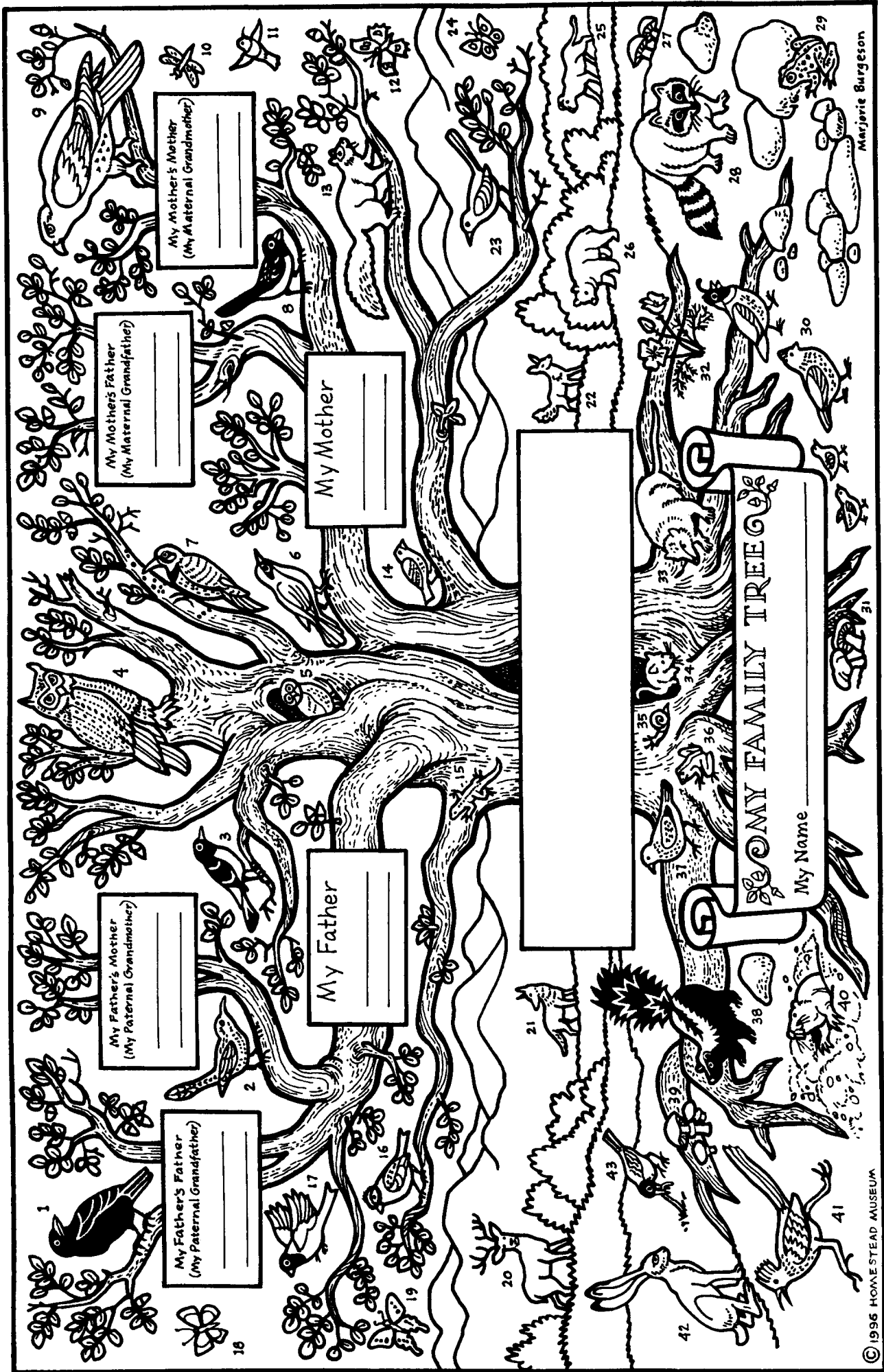


My Family Tree Work Sheet

History is a story about what has happened in the past. There are many different types of histories such as the history of a country, state, city, neighborhood, or school. The history that is probably most familiar to you is your own personal history, such as when and where you were born.

One way to record your family history is to make a family tree. Work with family members to record the names of your parents and grandparents as well as yourself on this work sheet. In class you will record all the names you have gathered onto a family tree, and you can also add the names of your brothers, sisters, friends, and pets.





My Father's Mother
(My Paternal Grandmother)

My Father's Father
(My Paternal Grandfather)

My Mother's Father
(My Maternal Grandfather)

My Mother's Mother
(My Maternal Grandmother)

My Father

My Mother

[Blank box for name]

MY FAMILY TREE
My Name _____

Family Tree Plant and Animal Answer Key

The numbers on the family tree identify the following animals and plants native to California:

1. Crow
2. Cactus Wren
3. Oriole
4. Great Horned Owl
5. Pygmy Owl
6. Scrub Jay
7. Woodpecker (Flicker)
8. Towhee
9. Red-Tailed Hawk
10. Dragonfly
11. Anna's Hummingbird
12. Butterfly
13. Gray Squirrel
14. Finch
15. Lizard
16. White-Crowned Sparrow
17. Oregon Junco
18. Butterfly
19. Swallowtail Butterfly
20. Deer
21. Coyote
22. Kit Fox
23. Mocking Bird
24. Butterfly
25. Mountain Lion
26. Black Bear
27. Mushroom
28. Raccoon
29. Toad
30. California Quail
31. Mushroom
32. California Poppy
33. Opossum
34. Mouse
35. Snail
36. Tree Frog
37. Ground Dove
38. Skunk
39. Mushroom
40. Gopher
41. Roadrunner
42. Jackrabbit
43. Robin