

Student Worksheet: My Family's Favorite Dish

1. Introduction: Why Our Stories Matter

Centropa is an organization dedicated to preserving Jewish memory and bringing history to life. By traveling to 15 different European countries—from the cities of Poland and Ukraine to the warm shores of the Balkans—Centropa has collected 1,230 interviews and 25,664 family pictures. These stories help us understand the world of the past.

One of the most delicious ways we preserve history is through **Centropa in the Kitchen**. Whether it is a classic Ashkenazi dish from Central Europe or a recipe from a Turkish Jewish kitchen, food is a bridge that connects us to our ancestors. Today, you are invited to become a "witness" to your own family history. Just like the interviewers in the Centropa Archive, you will help keep your family's memories alive by documenting a favorite dish.

2. Project Identification

Student Name: _____ Date: _____
Class: _____

3. Part 1: Identifying Your Family Treasure

Choose one specific dish that is important to your family. Think of this recipe as a "living link" to your family's past—a way to taste the history of the people who came before you. If you are not sure which dish to choose, ask a family member to tell you about a meal that reminds them of home or a special holiday.

Name of the dish: _____

4. Part 2: The Family Flavor Gallery (Illustration)

Draw Your Dish

In the space below, draw your chosen dish. You can draw the food itself, the ingredients used to make it, or even your family gathered around the table to enjoy the meal.

Fun Fact: The Centropa Archive contains over 25,000 family photographs used to tell personal stories. As you draw, try to make your illustration as descriptive as possible. Your drawing is more than just art; it is a historical record for the future, just like the photos in the archive.

[Space for Drawing]

5. Part 3: My Dish Story (Writing Task)

Use the sentence starters below to write three simple sentences in English about your family's dish. Use the Word Bank below if you need help!

Sentence 1 (The Name): The name of my family's favorite dish is

_____.

Sentence 2 (The Cook): My _____ usually prepares this dish for us.

Sentence 3 (The Significance): This dish is special because

_____.

Word Bank

People & Places: Grandmother, Grandfather, parents, holiday, kitchen, history. **Describing Words:** Traditional, delicious, special, historical, spicy, sweet, savory. **Action Words:** Celebrate, remember, share, smell, taste, ingredients.

6. Reflection: Preserving the Future

Centropa's mission is to "bring history to life" by sharing personal stories with the world. By recording the name and story of your family's favorite dish, you have helped ensure that your heritage is not forgotten.

Reflective Question: Why do you think it is important to remember and share your family's recipes with others?
