

Telling Our Stories Writing Prompts

Yellowstone Gateway Museum April 2020

Tips: Use descriptive language so when people read your story they can picture what you are talking about or how you feel. Add a lot of details.

Describe your family—list the names of your family members, including children, parents, siblings, grandparents, and others. List birthdays and birthplaces, if known.

How long has your family lived in Park County? Where have you resided and where do you live now? (Your stories can include memories from any place that you've lived in the past.)

What activities did you or do you enjoy with your children or grandchildren (parents or grandparents)?

Describe your home. What is most important to you about your home?

Do you have a backyard? Do you invite friends and family to your yard? What do you do there?

Describe your neighborhood. Have you formed important relationships with people living in your neighborhood?

Adults: What do you do for past and present employment? Describe your work and why it is important to you and/or your family.

What are the biggest changes you have witnessed during your life?

How does your family spend holidays? Name a few and describe what you like to do. (Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, religious holidays.)

What are your other family traditions? When did you begin them or were they handed down from parents or grandparents?

What school did you attend? Tell some stories of your schooling.

Do you participate in group activities (church, civic, book clubs, writers' groups, women's clubs, men's organizations, school boards, non-profit organizations)? Describe your experiences.

Do (or did) you regularly shop at local stores or businesses? Describe your interactions with these establishments and why they are (were) important to your family. Are there any businesses that you can describe that no longer exist in Park County?

Did you attend Park County Fairs? Describe your experiences.

What is your favorite time of the year and why?

What do you love best about living in Park County or the city of _____?

What do you like the least about living in Park County or the city of _____?

Write about what your parents or grandparents, where they lived, what they did for a living, and how they influenced your life. What did you learn from them?

Who is the most important person to you and why?

Write a story about someone or a group of people who inspires you.

Write a story about a teacher who taught you something important.

What are/were your favorite subjects in school and why do you like them?

When you were a child what did you imagine yourself doing as an adult? Why?

What is the most important thing to you? Why?

If you could do anything on a warm summer day, what would it be? Describe this activity.

Describe home projects that you have undertaken—the challenges, frustrations, and satisfaction of completing them.

Do you travel to see friends and family? If so, who do you visit and where do they live? Why do you like going there? Do you do travel to other countries? Describe your experiences.

Students: What are your favorite foods? Do you help your parents prepare meals and if so, how do you help?

Adults: What do you like to cook or bake for your family? Why?

What kind of music do you enjoy? Do you sing or play an instrument? How did you learn to play and would you like to learn how to play another instrument?

Describe physical activities that you enjoy (walking, hiking, fishing, skiing, hunting, swimming, etc.). Where do you go and who do you do them with?

Do you go camping in the summer? If so, tell stories about your experiences.

What kind of books do you like to read for fun and why?

What things do you do to stay healthy? Explain.

What other stories would you like to tell about your life?