

REPRESENTATION OF RITES OF PASSAGE - EXTENSION ACTIVITY

A central focus of the Hackney Roots resource is to promote intergenerational conversations. Personal accounts from the past can be compelling to listen to. This activity encourages you to ask older members of your family about their memories of big, family celebrations and significant days.

Although the main focus here is on the Jewish ritual of Bar and Bat Mitzvah, this activity is for everyone – Jewish and not Jewish.

RESEARCH

Talk to your parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and/or senior family members. What is their most memorable family celebration?

If they are Jewish, did they have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah? If so, what do they remember about it? Were there arguments in the planning for it? What made the day special? Do they have any photos or artefacts they can show you from the event?

If they didn't have a Bar Mitzvah, what big occasion do they remember their family planning for? What was the event and what do they remember about it? Do they have any photos or artefacts they can show you from the event?

RESEARCH

1. Which parts of these stories stand out for you and why?
2. How can you use film to capture these memories for future generations?
3. What more do you want to ask?