



## Questions for Recollections & Connections

### Big Read 2010

#### The Depression

- Do you have any family stories about the Depression you can share?
- Did your parents or grandparents live through the Great Depression? What memories have they shared with you?

#### Questions for children interviewing grandparents

- Did you grow up in the Ozarks? What was life like where you grew up?
- What was your childhood like? What were your parents like? What were your grandparents like?
- Who were your favorite relatives? Why? Do you remember any stories they used to tell you?
- How did you and Grandma/Grandpa meet?
- What did you do for a living? Do you have any stories about your job?
- What was my mom/dad like growing up?
- Do you remember any songs you used to sing to my mom/dad? Can you sing them now?
- What was the worst thing she/he ever did?
- How would you like to be remembered?

#### Questions about raising children

- Tell me about the first time you found out you were going to be a parent. How did you feel?
- Can you describe the moment when you saw your child for the first time?
- How has being a parent changed you?
- Do you have any favorite stories about your kids?

Adapted from the Story Corps Great Questions List <http://www.storycorps.org/record-your-story/question-generator/list>.



## Questions for Recollections & Connections Big Read 2010

### Questions for children interviewing parents

- What was going through your head the first time you saw me?
- How did you choose my name?
- What was I like as a baby? As a young child?
- What were the hardest moments you had when I was growing up?
- What advice would you give me about raising my own children?
- What are your dreams for me?
- How did you meet my mom/dad?

### Questions about growing up

- When and where were you born?
- Where did you grow up?
- What was it like?
- What were your parents like?
- Did you get into trouble when you were a kid? What was the worst thing you ever did?
- Did you have any brothers or sisters? What were they like?
- Did you have any pets? Do you remember any stories about them?
- What is your best memory of childhood? What is your worst memory of childhood?
- What holiday traditions did your family have?
- Did you have a nickname? How did you get it?
- Who were your best friends? What were they like? What did you do with them?
- How would you describe a perfect day when you were young?
- Do you have any favorite stories from your childhood?



## Questions for Recollections & Connections Big Read 2010

### Questions about school

- Did you like school?
- What was your favorite school subject?
- How would your friends and classmates remember you?
- Are you still friends with anyone from that time in your life?
- What are your best memories of elementary or high school? Worst memories?
- Was there a teacher who had a strong influence on you? Tell me about them.

### Questions about family heritage

- What is your ethnic background?
- Where is your mom's family from? Where is your dad's family from?
- Have you visited your mom's and/or dad's homeland or homeplace? What was that like?
- What traditions have been passed down in your family?
- Who are or were your favorite relatives?
- Do you remember any stories they used to tell you?
- What are some of the classic family stories? Jokes? Songs?

### Questions about love and relationships

- Do you have a love of your life?
- Who was your first love? Tell me about him/her.
- Can you tell me about your first kiss?
- What was your first serious relationship?
- Do you believe in love at first sight?
- Can you tell me about your best friend when you were a child?
- What was the most fun thing you ever did with a friend?
- What lessons have you learned from your relationships?