

“JUST THE FACTS MA’M”

About putting together a Family Fun Album

Jolene Shaffer 2007©

Being a scrapper means we are pretty good at taking or gathering those family photos but what about the little things that go with them? Those small details or facts about the day in the photo or the event that make your family special or ties them together for that time are as important as the photo itself is.

Making albums or layouts of what you enjoy together or what your children have in their heads is a wonderful way to preserve and document those times. Whether paper or digital you can do this! It does not have to be a huge album or layout-it can be whatever size suits YOU.

Ask your family members to fill out some answers to questions or ideas and then use them in your pages. If they are too young to write them out take the time to sit down and ask them keeping a careful record of their answers and why.

Suggestions here are

1. Favorite Family Foods
2. Favorite Family Trips
3. Favorite Family Silly Moments
4. Favorite Family Ut Oh's
5. Favorite Family Places to go on Vacation
6. Favorite Family Holidays
7. Favorite Family Pets
8. Favorite Famous People
9. Favorite Family Memory
10. Favorite Family Restaurants
11. Favorite Family Places To Go
12. Favorite Family Games
13. Favorite Memories of Grandparents
14. Favorite Memories of Parents
15. Favorite Day or Month
16. Favorite Friends or Relatives
17. Favorite Movies or TV Shows
18. Favorite Songs or Music
19. Favorite Books or Stories
20. Family member goals for when they are certain ages such as when I am 10, 16, 21 or 30, when I retire or when I get married etc. Some we have used are “when I have a house of my own—“ “When I am working I will be---“, When I am rich I will do----”, “ When I have kids they will ---“, and so on. Some ideas have been hilarious while others show how your children or grandchildren or other family members think! It's a joy to find out things you didn't know!

Those are just a few examples to help you get started. When you have compiled the lists make a page for each family member that lists their favorites and also include the age

they are and other personal facts along with some photos. Next year do it again and you will see some changes and everyone will enjoy comparing what was then and now.

My grandchildren's stepmother has done this for all 6 of them and in just one year there is a change in most of their items. It is amazing to see how they changed! Some things remained the same but others were a total turn around. Keeping them in a book for them gives them something to look forward to later and we have found that they now say "Can you write this in my facts book for me?".

Some things of course may not be things you want to write down lol and she is careful to ask them questions about what they are saying so that it is not something they are doing on the spur of the moment but it has led to some wonderful scrapbook material for them all. Having them draw pictures now and then to add to the book is another addition that is wonderful to have. They can make their own covers for their books as well. It provides not only a look into your family favorites but also a look into other family members thoughts and into yours by them. What a great way for family scrapping to start!

Hopefully this has given you some ideas on making a time for "Family Scrapping and Fun" that you will treasure!