

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

‘My Name’ Scavenger Hunt

READ:

Your name is special! Maybe your first name is after a beloved relative or friend, or a special place. Sometimes last names tell us what parts of the world our ancestors came from, or the type of work people did long ago. Other times, we might not know where our last name came from in history, but we can talk about what it means to us today. People’s names help historians in their research. They can look up names in all sorts of directories and find out where people lived, who they lived with, and the kind of work they did. This information helps us understand how Chicago and the United States grew and changed over time.

DO:

How can you spell your name with objects?

- **Decide** if you are using your first name or last name, and **Write** your name length wise on a sheet of paper.
- **Hunt** around your house to find an artifact that begins with each letter of your name. For example, if your name starts with the letter C you might find a Coffee Cup. Write each item next to its matching letter. (Choose things that won’t break!)
- **Create** a mini-exhibition using the items which help spell your name.
- **Give** a tour. Show your display to a family member.
- **Talk** about why you chose those objects.

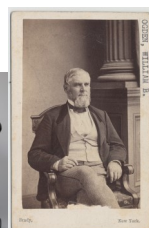
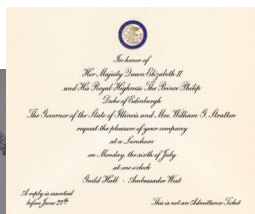
Approx. Time: 30—45 minutes

Materials:

- ⇒ Paper
- ⇒ Pencil or pen
- ⇒ Tote bag to collect items
- ⇒ Items from around your house

SHARE:

- **Take** a picture of your display!
- **Record** your tour.
- **Post** your picture or recording on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #CHMatHomeFamilies.



Sample from the Chicago History Museum:

C



The Chicago History Museum has over 50,000 **CLOTHING** and textiles from the 1700s all the up to now. These include fancy dresses like this one by Charles Worth from 1884, but we also have every day dresses too!

H



HATS like this one by hat maker Bes-Ben also are part of the clothing and textiles collection.

I



INVITATIONS, menus, brochures, and other every day items are also a bit part of the museum's collection. They give us insight into the everyday lives of Chicagoans.

C



The **CHAIR** made out of cow horns also is part of our 3-D collection which ranges from very small buttons and pins to large items like carriages and even a locomotive.

A



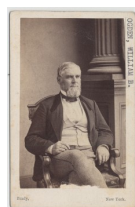
This **AXE** is from around the year 2000 BCE when the indigenous people began to set up trading villages where they could grow crops and hunt. They used the waterways to help trade with people further away.

G



The museum even has everyday things like this Weber **GRILL** which was designed by George Stephen.

O



Photographs like this one of the first mayor of Chicago, William **OGDEN**, help us see what people, places, and events looked like long ago.
