## **Connecting Past and Future** Family Guide

## **CREATIVITY CONNECTS US**

This guide helps families **PREPARE** for the Crayola Creativity Week daily theme *Connecting Past and Future*. Print copies of the Thinking Sheets: *My Family and My Future* and *Changemakers* or use this guide and provide children with plain paper for the activities.



Eva Chen wrote and Sophie Diao illustrated the two books that are shared during this program. *I Am Golden* celebrates how the hopes and dreams of Eva's ancestors and their rich heritage influence her family's experiences across several generations. *We Are Golden* examines legacy and how leaders are changemakers who serve in many professions and are role models for children.

Children will: • embrace their heritage and discuss your family's ancestral roots,

- describe their heroes and the leadership attributes they value,
  - · -explore the ways changemakers make a difference in the world, and
- share this exploration of heritage and legacy with their family!



Using the *My Family and My Future* Thinking Sheet, have children **RESPOND** to Mei's family's journey by thinking about your family's roots. Have a family discussion about your heritage and the life lessons and values that have been passed down to each generation. How have cultural traditions influenced your family today and made your family feel special?





Each family member will **CREATE** a three-part life map that shows the past, present, and future. Or family members could work together on one mapthat includes everyone in the middle section. Discuss the many possibilities for the future and

how each individual leaves a legacy based on what they value and do during their lifetime. Encourage family members to be imaginative and optimistic as they envision the future.







**PRESENT** each life map either individually or collaboratively,

depending on who worked on each one. Plan how and with whom

the art will be shared. Help children prepare for the presentation by thinking of the main points they want to make and how they will describe their creative process. Encourage them to explain the various scenes they envision for their future. During the presentation, emphasize how cultural traditions are important to shaping the present and why optimism helps us see possibilities for the future.



**CONNECT** the personal experiences from your family with what can be learned about other people. Discuss what the words *heritage* and *legacy* mean and connect them to the two ends of a life map. Help children outline questions they might ask relatives to learn more about the ways family history, cultural traditions, and personal aspirations influence them.



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Using the *Changemakers* Thinking Sheet, have children **RESPOND** to concepts of leadership in *We Are Golden*. Have a family discussion about the many ways people can be leaders. Discuss examples of those who inspire others, create change, drive results, and deepen understanding of people and their cultures. Ask each family member to identify changemakers they look up to and who inspire their interests and aspirations. Urge them to think about individuals they've learned about in history lessons or current events or people in the community who serve as role models for creating positive change.





Family members will **CREATE** personalized scenes that include their *future selves* next to a leader who inspires, supports, or influences them. Remind them that changemakers contribute to all areas of society as artists, athletes, authors, educators, entertainers, policy makers, and visionaries.



Family members will **PRESENT** their work in a special *Changemaker Leadership* celebration that helps them explain their vision for the future and express their appreciation for those who inspire and support them. Preparing presentations and sharing ideas are important parts of the creative process. Inviting an audience of friends and family to the celebration adds to the event's significance and honors everyone's ideas.



**CONNECT** your family members' dreams with their special leadership skills. Use this activity to spark conversations about how everyone can be changemakers right now—no need for kids to wait until they are grown up. Share the insight that *creativity is putting imagination into action* and empowers us to become whatever we imagine!





At the end of this activity, ask children how the past influences the future and how family history and inspirational leaders impact them today. See what ideas they have for a follow-up activity around their personal identity, family history, and changemakers who are leadership role models.

