**CHAPTER 1**

Have you ever thought about your name? Really thought about it? Have you ever tried to think about what it means, or where it came from in the first place? Do you know who gave you your name, or whose name it might have been before it was given to you? Names seem like such every day common things that we often don’t think much about the; but every name has a history. Use the internet or ask your parent/guardian to determine the meaning of your name.

Also include in chapter 1:

1. Birth facts: time, where, date, name of hospital. A baby picture is fun to include here.

2. Were you named after anyone? Who?

3. Why did your parents name you what they did? Include your middle name, birth weight, height. Include any interesting facts about your birth. For example, was there a blizzard, a special occasion, or even on the day you were born? (Check history books, the Internet, old newspapers in the library.)

4. What did you discover about the history of your name?

5. Do you have a nickname? How did you get it?

**CHAPTER 2**

Family and Home

1. Describe each member of your family so people will know what they are like – looks, personality, occupation (job), age.

2. Where do you fit – oldest, middle, youngest, only?

3. What is your family’s ethnic background? Do you observe any traditions from other countries?

4. Do you have any pets? If so, what kind, name, how long you’ve had them.

5. Describe the house or apartment you live in now. Where else have you lived – other cities, other houses?

6. What do you remember about other places?

7. Are there any places that are special to you, such as a relative’s home or grandparents’ place?

8. Include anything else about your family or your background. (Hobbies, family projects, vacations, a special time, etc.)

**CHAPTER 3 Early Life (ages 1-6)**

This is a difficult section since most of you will not remember many things about this time of your life. What you write here requires the help of parents, older brothers and sisters (if you have any), or other relatives. Ask questions about the things you did during this time of your life. Many families have stories about the things children did when they were young.

**CHAPTER 4 Later Life (ages 7 to present)**

Describe things you remember that happened to you during your life. Do this in order – people you met, things you did, places you went, events both happy and sad. Now would be a good time to include a drawing or picture of your past and present schools. Sketches or photographs of friends, teams, postcards from vacations – all fit in here.

**CHAPTER 5 Memorable Events**

Talk about important things that have happened to you in your life like: • birthdays • beginning school • getting a pet • moving • special awards Anything you consider important in your life, add here. Be sure to include one of the best things that ever happened to you and one of the worst things that ever happened to you, and explain why. This is your book and your feelings are important.

**CHAPTER 6 Description of you as you are now**

What do you look like? (Describe in detail.) What is your personality? (Shy, outgoing, competitive, sensitive, etc.) What are your faults? What are your interests, hobbies, habits (good and bad)? Do you belong to any clubs or organizations? Have you won any awards? How have you changed in the last year? What makes you YOU?

**CHAPTER 7 Likes and Dislikes**

What are some of your favorites – color, food, television show, book that you’ve read, season, etc.? Who do you admire, famous and non-famous people? What is your idea of having a good time? What do you find boring? What do you dislike? Include any other likes and dislikes you can think of. What are your pet peeves? (Little things that bother you.) What is something you get angry about?

**CHAPTER 8 Feelings**

What are some things you feel strongly about? What is important to you? Explain. Use a thesaurus to find different words to use when you write about your feelings. In this section you might also include your religious beliefs or convictions. You may want to use a pattern poem such as: I feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ You may also write your own poetry if you’d like since poetry is usually based on feelings. Include a collection about things that are important to you and how you feel about them.

**Chapter 9 Others**

How do you think other people see you? Describe and explain why you think people see you the way they do. You might decide to interview your friends or give them a list of basic questions to answer about you. If you have grandparents that are living, ask them to write a paragraph or so about you. Include this in your book. Do the same with your parents. Someday these writings will be very special.

**CHAPTER 10 Future Plans**

Discuss your hopes for the future – education, career, accomplishments, possessions you hope to have, family plans, where you hope to live, what you would like to be doing in 10 years, travel plans, etc. Include anything else you are planning for the future – dreams, wishes, ambitions . . .

